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Early History

Department Massachusetts



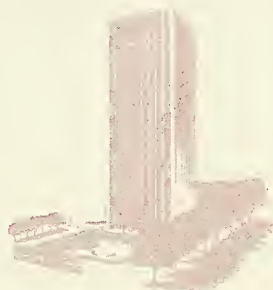
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AUSTIN S. CUSHMAN,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1867.

EARLY HISTORY
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS
G. A. R.

FROM 1866 TO 1880 INCLUSIVE.

COMPILED BY
DIRECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT
OF 1892.

BOSTON, MASS.:
E. B. STILLINGS & Co., 55 SUDBURY STREET.
1895.

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INTRODUCTION.

At the Department Encampment of 1892, held in Boston, the following resolution, offered by Past Department Commander George W. Creasey, was adopted : —

That a committee of five be appointed to compile the earlier history of the Grand Army of this Department, and that said committee be requested to report at the next Department Encampment.

The committee was appointed by Department Commander Arthur A. Smith, as follows: Past Department Commanders George W. Creasey, Austin S. Cushman and John D. Billings, and Comrades William M. Olin of Post 26 and George W. Powers of Post 15.

At the Encampment of 1893 the committee made a report of progress and were given full powers to proceed with the publication. The result of their labors is presented herewith.

After due consideration, it was decided by the committee to print the records of the Encampments down to and including the administration of Department Commander Hawes, covering the period from the organization of the Department to the year 1881. Of these administrations, extending over fourteen years, the records of only five were in print: those of Commanders Osborn, 1869; Cogswell, 1871; Sibley, 1872; Underwood, 1873, and Kimball, 1874. What appears in this history of the records of the administrations of Department Commanders Cushman and Sprague was furnished by those comrades. Of the administration of Department Commander Bates in 1870, no official record could be found by the committee. The newspapers at that time appear to have given but meager reports of the proceedings of our Encampments. Little or nothing appears in the Boston papers, and in the case of the Encampment which terminated Department Commander Bates' administration, the committee was obliged to rely solely upon extracts from the *Daily Courier* of Lowell, where the Encampment was held.

From the administration of Department Commander Kimball in 1874, to that of Department Commander Hawes in 1880, the records, although not in print, were fully written out in the books of the Assistant Adjutant-General, which were copied by the committee.

The committee is indebted to Post 35 of Chelsea for the use of its complete file of General Orders of the Department. As is generally known, the files at Department Headquarters were destroyed by fire in 1872 in Boston; and the loss of these and other records of the Department has been a source of serious embarrassment in the work of compiling this history.

To the compilation which the Department instructed the committee to make, has been added an appendix, comprising an account of the memorial services of Post 1 of New Bedford, on the 4th of July, 1867 — being the first held by a Grand Army Post in this Commonwealth; — and a roster of all the Posts organized in the Department from the beginning to Jan. 1, 1895. This latter work has involved a great deal of care and labor; and while, from the incompleteness of the records, the list is not entirely satisfactory, it will be found to be of much interest and value.

HISTORY

OF THE

PROVISIONAL DEPARTMENT AND THE FORMATION OF THE PERMANENT DEPARTMENT.

THE organization of the Grand Army of the Republic in Massachusetts had its inception in September, 1866. At that time Gen. Charles Devens, Jr., of Boston, Maj. Austin S. Cushman and Chaplain Alonzo H. Quint of New Bedford, were initiated into the Order during a visit to Pittsburgh, Pa., as delegates from the "Soldiers' and Sailors' Union" of Massachusetts. It was agreed, according to Beath's History of the Grand Army of the Republic, that General Devens should act as provisional commander in Massachusetts, and each of the three comrades named was provided with constitutions and rituals and authorized to organize Posts.

Immediately on his return from Pittsburgh, Major Cushman took the preliminary steps for the organization of a Post in New Bedford, which was chartered by Commander-in-Chief Hurlbut, under date of Oct. 4, 1866. The charter members were A. S. Cushman, G. R. Hurlbut, Alonzo H. Quint, E. H. Robbins, Thomas Edwards, D. B. Coleman, and William S. Cobb. Major Cushman was chosen Post Commander. "This," says Beath's History, "was the first Post chartered in the East; and it has maintained its organization constantly to the present time, though the charter was subsequently replaced by one issued Oct. 14, 1866, in order that the Post might have the first charter issued by Comrade Cushman as provisional commander of the Department, he having accepted that office upon the request of Gen. Devens."

Provisional Commander Cushman's first general order, which is published in full in its appropriate place in this History, is dated Feb. 22, 1867. He appointed Thomas Edwards of Post 1 as Assistant Adjutant-General. In the list of officers and members of the Council of Administration announced in this first general order, only four Posts were represented,—Post 1 of New Bedford, Post 2 of Nantucket (which was organized soon after the formation of Post 1, but did not long retain its charter), Post 3 of Taunton (chartered Jan. 2, 1867), and Post 4 of Melrose, chartered Feb. 19, 1867. Before the expiration of February, Post 5 of Lynn was organized. During the month of March, Post 6 came into existence at Holliston, Post 7 at Boston, Post 8 at Middleborough, Post 9 at Hudson, and in April came the advent of Post 10 of Worcester and Post 11 of Charlestown. The Rules and Regulations prescribing that whenever ten Posts were established in the State an election of Department Commander should be held and the regular working of the Order should commence, these accessions enabled the Provisional Commander to call an encampment for the organization of a permanent Department. This he did by General Order No. 3, dated April 22, 1867; and the encampment was held at New Bedford on the 7th of May following.

THE FIRST ENCAMPMENT.

By the order quoted above each Post was instructed to send one delegate for every twenty-five of its members. In order to secure a general attendance of delegates without their incurring a loss of time, and also to attract the favorable attention of the soldiers and sailors of the late war to the objects and character of the organization, it was deemed best to hold the Encampment in the evening, and, prior to the transaction of business, to have a public address in an open session to which everybody should be invited. Accordingly the Commander appointed a Committee of Arrangements consisting of F. L. Gilman, David B. Coleman and William T. Soule, who secured the Rev. Alonzo H. Quint, D.D., as the orator of the occasion.

Of the eleven Posts then organized, delegates were present except from Post 2 of Nantucket; and as all had arrived, in the afternoon an informal conference was had at Mechanics Hall on William Street, then occupied by Post No. 1. The Commander explained the reasons for holding a public meeting; and his course met with general approval, as it was believed that it would tend to increase membership in all the Posts, secure popular approval and remove prejudice by the publicity which would be given to its proceedings through the newspapers. At such conference the credentials were collected and verified by the Assistant Adjutant-General, Thomas Edwards, and an order of business was decided upon for the evening session. It was arranged that the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements should call the meeting to order and announce the Provisional Commander as Chairman of the meeting, William T. Soule Secretary, and a list of vice-presidents comprising all the delegates in attendance; that the Commander should make some prefatory remarks and introduce the orator, and that at the conclusion of Dr. Quint's address the public should retire and the Encampment go into secret session for the transaction of business.

The public meeting had been advertised for several days in the local papers, and considerable interest was awakened to witness the assembling of the first meeting of the Department. At 7 o'clock, the hour appointed for the meeting, the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements called the meeting to order and announced the list of officers for the evening.

The Commander, on assuming the chair, expressed his gratification that so many who were eligible to membership in the Grand Army had evinced by their presence a desire to learn something of its purposes, and trusted that they might be led to unite with the organization and assist in its establishment. He was also gratified to see so many patriotic citizens assembled, to whom he could commend the new organization as deserving of their active sympathy and support. The disbandment of the largest army that had ever been assembled was an event which might well occasion solicitude. History showed that men relieved from discipline often became demoralized and dispirited from inability to find employment, were peculiarly tempted to resort to crime or plunged into reckless dissipation, to their consequent ruin. If we would fulfill the promises made when men were wanted at the front, if we would keep our prisons and our almshouses from being filled with the lawless and the indigent from among those who were idle from necessity and not from choice, we must render efficient aid to every soldier, which may enable him to resume his place as a worker in the community, and foster that self-respect which will incite him to improve his condition in life. The Order which we represent is of recent origin. It invites to its membership all who can exhibit an honorable discharge from the army, the navy or the marine corps. Its purposes and objects are freely published to the world for its approval, and appeal to the loftiest patriotism and the most unselfish benevolence of all who desire the welfare of our common country and honor the defenders of the nation's life.

We avow our purpose to be:—

1. The preservation of those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together the soldiers and sailors who have stood together in many battles, sieges, engagements and marches.

2. To demonstrate the strength of these ties by works of kindness and material aid to those who need assistance.

3. To provide as far as it may be possible for the support, care and education of the orphans of soldiers or sailors, and for the maintenance of the widows of soldiers or sailors.

4. To render protection and assistance to disabled soldiers or sailors, whether disabled by wounds, disease, old age or misfortune.

5. To establish and defend the rights of the soldiers and sailors lately in the service of the United States, with a view to secure a proper appreciation and recognition of their services and the acknowledgment of their just claims upon the community.

6. To maintain an unswerving allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for and fidelity to the National Constitution and laws, and manifesting itself by discountenancing whatever may tend to weaken loyalty, incite to insurrection, treason or rebellion, or in any manner impair the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions; also to serve as the defenders of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men.

With these practical explanations the chairman introduced the Rev. Alonzo H. Quint, as a comrade and a charter member of Post 1 of New Bedford, who had been mustered into the Order at the same time as the Commander, at Pittsburgh, Pa., on the 25th day of September, 1866. Dr. Quint spoke substantially as follows:—

“The war was not in vain: the country is progressing politically, and the South has evidently had enough fighting. I congratulate the soldiers and sailors on what they have accomplished and on the spirit of the Grand Army with its cementing of friendships and its worthy objects.

“The soldiers owe it to society, as to themselves, to be industrious and sober citizens; and they do ask the privilege of being such, but do not always have it accorded to them. A few instances have come to my personal knowledge where a discrimination in the hiring of workmen was exercised against them because they had been soldiers. This should not be; and instead of being denied the employment which they honorably seek, they should be preferred over those who would not take up arms in the hour of the nation's need.

“They should be law-abiding citizens, and the great mass of them desire to be, notwithstanding copperheads and the agents of the American Peace Society try to make it appear otherwise.

“They should be thoroughly steadfast to loyalty and abide by the principles of government they fought to sustain, which is founded on the doctrine of equal rights for all. I recall the time when I was in East Tennessee, and a white regiment refused to

do picket duty with an Alabama colored regiment; in the next battle that occurred the white regiment disgraced itself; but the blacks showed themselves to be true and steady in the hour of greatest need. Those who are not actuated by the spirit of our free institutions are not fit to defend them. Those who fought for the cause of Freedom, of all men, should detest the spirit of caste that would degrade labor. It is a nobler thing to take the hand of a faithful, brave soldier than that of the greatest aristocrat on earth. The man who fought for loyalty, not fame, did his duty, and now, perhaps, sleeps in an unknown grave, is the noblest hero of the war.

"The returned soldiers respect the flag, which represents the dignity of a free people. We learned what the flag is by the Rebellion. It awakens a just feeling of indignation in every soldier's breast when we see it prostituted to all sorts of cheap entertainments. They must feel a spirit of detestation for those who rose in opposition to that beloved flag—who are not to be forgiven till they repent: neither Southern nor Northern rebels. The former show more sense of repentance than do the latter, who will still bear watching. They want your votes; but I would sooner cut off my right hand before I would cast one for them. The war was educational in its influences, and the hand that held the musket was guided by an active, thinking brain which comprehended to its fullest extent the magnitude of the principles involved in the contest. On the whole the soldiers were elevated in character by the war.

"Society owes gratitude to the soldiers who took their lives in their hands and went through all manner of hardships unto death for the best of human governments. Employment should be furnished to all who desire it: give them as good a chance, and perhaps a little better, in return for breaking up their business and entering the public service. The helpless soldier should be charitably remembered. The government should be more liberal in the matter of pensions. All arguments against the equalization of bounties are fallacious—there may be sound ones against their expediency. A member of the General Court from this vicinity maintains that if he hires a man a year at thirteen dollars per month, and the next year laborers are scarce and he has to give twenty dollars, it does not follow that he should increase the wages from the beginning of the first year. The fallacy of this reasoning is that it classifies the soldier as a hireling and rewards as wages. Rewards should be equal where the merits are equal.

"It is urged that the first soldiers should not have been paid large bounties, because their families could live cheaper than in the following years when prices of necessities were enhanced; but it cost as much the third year after they enlisted as it did for the families of the raw recruits at the same time. Those who re-

ceived the high bounties were not generally as good men as those who received none. Eight hundred of them were sent to the regiment to which I was attached, and all but three hundred and forty deserted on the way. Those deserters pay no taxes; but the soldiers who received no bounty are now as tax payers paying the bounty debts.

“One thing is clear, I think, to the minds of all. If all those who could have gone had volunteered, as did those who without a bounty went to the war at their country’s call, no excessively large bounties would have been required, and a part of the great weight of present and future taxation would have been avoided. It was the scarcity of volunteers; it was the evasion of duty by those who could go and would not go that occasioned this injustice of discrimination, of which those who patriotically did their full duty without a bounty now complain.

“If the bounties are not equalized, the next time that we should find ourselves involved in war, people will naturally say, ‘Don’t volunteer too early.’ However, the bounty question is not a very important one — most soldiers are satisfied if they get a chance to earn an honest living.

“There are many impostors asking charity as disabled soldiers; and the community would be safer to give their contributions to the officials of the Grand Army of the Republic, who will see to it that they are worthily bestowed. Here they would feel assured that the disabled, and the families bereft of their bread-winners by the sacrifices of the war, would find some substantial aid in their struggles to eke out a subsistence. Thus can the patriotic redeem the pledges of the past and assist in bearing the burdens which the members of the Grand Army have by their organic law assumed.

“Since the war all nations stand in dread of provoking a quarrel with America. Our war has thus prevented the possibilities of war for years to come. Though you have learned the art of war, yet are you really the heralds of peace. You secure its blessings to this generation at least, and afford the basis for hope of their continuance to posterity. As in the field the flag was the prominent object to which all eyes turned and which all loyally followed, so the great cause of human freedom and equal rights which it represented, with like loyalty and zeal the Grand Army of the Republic continues to serve with a soldier’s fidelity and devotion. Today it starts upon an enlarged field of useful endeavor, with the noblest of purposes — devotion to your comrades and loyalty to your country. Under the same flag which witnessed your zeal in its defense, which hallowed your battles, and which issued from the smoke and carnage of four years of strife with its folds bright and unsullied because of your victorious protection and fidelity, you stand tonight calling upon all who testified to their love for

the Stars and Stripes— by a common experience in the march, the bivouac, the tent, the hospital, or upon the crowded deck—to unite with you, to renew the comradeship which was cemented by dangers in which there was equality of risk and sacrifice, to maintain through life the high standard of loyalty which stimulated you for four long years of trial and suffering, and to alleviate the sorrows of your wounded or sick comrades and of the bereaved families of those who paid their debt to duty by the full measure of their life's blood. With a brotherhood extending wherever that flag floats, the time is not far distant when the ranks of the Grand Army will include in a glorious fraternity every surviving soldier or sailor who did his duty. None other can enter it. Gold cannot purchase the envied distinction of its nobility. But there will come a time when, by the inexorable limitation to human life, the Grand Army will pass away and its activities cease. And when the last survivor of the veterans of the great War of the Rebellion shall have been relieved from duty here, and shall have joined the hosts of good men and true marshaled on the farther shore, our Order will have left an imperishable legacy to posterity in its brilliant record of benevolence, fraternity and patriotism."

At the close of Chaplain Quint's address the Chairman requested the delegates to remain after the public had retired. The following is a list of delegates in attendance:—

Francis L. Gilman of Post No. 1, New Bedford.
David B. Coleman of Post No. 1, New Bedford.
William T. Soule of Post No. 1, New Bedford.
Robert Crossman, 2d, of Post No. 3, Taunton.
L. O. Barnard of Post No. 3, Taunton.
Alfred M. Williams of Post No. 3, Taunton.
J. T. Lurvey of Post No. 4, Melrose.
Edward D. Bean of Post No. 5, Lynn.
David Walker of Post No. 5, Lynn.
Charles S. Wilder of Post No. 6, Holliston.
S. F. Keyes of Post No. 7, Boston.
R. H. Holmes of Post No. 8, Middleboro.
Marcus Soule of Post No. 8, Middleboro.
J. S. Bailey of Post No. 9, Hudson.
J. A. Titus of Post No. 10, Worcester.
A. A. Goodell of Post No. 10, Worcester.
George H. Long of Post No. 11, Charlestown.

Post No. 2 of Nantucket failed to send delegates. The Assistant Adjutant-General took his station in the place of Secretary William T. Soule.

The Commander called the Encampment to order and stated that the first business which required the attention of the delegates, under the Rules and Regulations, was to organize the Department of Massachusetts by the election of a Grand Commander, a Senior Vice Grand Commander, a Junior Vice Grand Commander, an Assistant Adjutant-General, an Assistant Quartermaster-General, and a Council of Administration consisting of five members.

On motion of Comrade S. F. Keyes of Post No. 7, it was voted that a committee of five comrades be appointed by the Chair to place in nomination a list of Department officers.

The Commander appointed as such committee Comrades

S. F. Keyes of Post No. 7, Boston.

William T. Soule of Post No. 1, New Bedford.

David Walker of Post No. 5, Lynn.

J. S. Bailey of Post No. 9, Hudson.

J. A. Titus of Post No. 10, Worcester.

The committee soon reported the following ticket:—

For Grand Commander, Austin S. Cushman of Post No. 1.

For Senior Vice Grand Commander, A. A. Goodell of Post No. 10.

For Junior Vice Grand Commander, B. A. Bridges of Post No. 6.

For Assistant Adjutant-General, J. T. Lurvey of Post No. 4.

For Assistant Quartermaster-General, Henry A. Hallgreen of Post No. 7.

For Council of Administration: Alonzo H. Quint of Post No. 1, S. F. Keyes of Post No. 7, Robert Crossman, 2d, of Post No. 3, J. G. B. Adams of Post No. 5 and G. H. Long of Post No. 11.

On motion of Comrade William T. Soule of Post No. 1, it was voted that the Encampment proceed to elect by ballot a Grand Commander and the other Department officers in the order of their nomination.

On motion of Comrade S. F. Keyes of Post No. 7, it was unanimously voted that the Assistant Adjutant-General be empowered to cast a single ballot, as the unanimous vote of the delegates present, bearing the name of Austin S. Cushman for the office of Grand Commander of the Department of Massachusetts. Assistant Adjutant-General Thomas Edwards accordingly deposited such ballot and declared that Austin S. Cushman was elected Grand Commander of the Department of Massachusetts.

On motion of Comrade David B. Coleman of Post No. 1, it was unanimously voted that the Assistant Adjutant-General be also empowered to cast a single ballot as the unanimous vote of the delegates present, bearing the name of A. A. Goodell for the office of Senior Vice Department Commander. The ballot was so cast and the result announced. The Commander then declared A. A. Goodell of Post No. 10 duly elected Senior Vice Grand Commander of the Department.

On motion of Comrade James T. Lurvey of Post No. 4, it was unanimously voted that the Assistant Adjutant-General be similarly empowered to cast a single ballot bearing the name of B. A. Bridges for the office of Junior Vice Grand Commander. The ballot being cast accordingly and the result announced, the Commander declared Comrade B. A. Bridges of Post No. 6 duly elected Junior Vice Grand Commander of the Department.

On motion of Comrade George H. Long of Post 11, the Assistant Adjutant-General was similarly empowered, by a unanimous vote, to cast a single ballot for James T. Lurvey for the office of Assistant Adjutant-General; and the ballot being cast and the result announced the Commander declared Comrade James T. Lurvey of Post No. 4 duly elected Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department.

On motion of Comrade Robert Crossman, 2d, of Post No. 3, the Assistant Adjutant-General was similarly empowered, by a unanimous vote, to cast a single ballot for Henry A. Hallgreen of Post 7 for the office of Assistant Quartermaster-General; and the ballot having accordingly been cast and the result announced, the Commander declared Comrade Henry A. Hallgreen of Post No. 7 duly elected Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department.

On motion of Comrade Francis L. Gilman of Post No. 1, it was unanimously voted that the Assistant Adjutant-General be empowered to cast a single ballot bearing the five names nominated and reported by the Committee on Nominations for the offices of members of the Council of Administration. The ballot was so taken and announced; and the Commander thereupon declared that Alonzo H. Quint of Post No. 1, S. F. Keyes of Post No. 7, Robert Crossman, 2d, of Post No. 3, J. G. B. Adams of Post No. 5 and George H. Long of Post No. 11 were duly elected members of the Council of Administration of the Department.

The Commander thereupon announced that he accepted the office of Grand Commander, to which he had been elected, and thanked the delegates for the trust and confidence thus reposed in him. He pledged himself to do all in his power to promote the growth of the Order, promote harmony and extend the usefulness of the organization.

The Assistant Adjutant-General of the Provisional Department then turned over the books and papers of his office to his successor, who assumed the office to which he had been elected.

The Commander then declared the Department of Massachusetts duly organized as a Department of the Grand Army of the Republic, and that the regular working of the Order in accordance with the Rules and Regulations applicable to Departments, as a State organization, commenced from this date.

Extracts from the Rules and Regulations, prescribing the duties of the several officers of a Department, were read for the information of the newly-elected officers.

Comrade S. F. Keyes of Post No. 7 introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: —

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Encampment the Headquarters of the Department should be established in the City of Boston, and the Assistant Adjutant-General be on daily duty thereat during business hours, in order to impart information, promote the growth of the Order and facilitate the dispatch of official business.

No further business coming before the Encampment, the delegates joined in singing “Auld Lang Syne,” and the Commander declared the Encampment closed.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1867-68.

HEADQUARTERS G.A.R., DEPT. OF MASS.,
Feb. 22, 1867.GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 1.

I. Having been designated as Provisional Commander of this Department, I have entered upon the discharge of the duties of the office, with Headquarters at 117 Union Street, New Bedford.

II. The following-named comrades have been detached for duty at these Headquarters:—

For Asst. Adjt.-Gen., THOMAS EDWARDS of Post No. 1.

“ Asst. Q.M.-G., EDWIN DEWS of Post No. 1.

“ Aide-de-Camp, J. WALDO DENNY of Post No. 1.

“ “ “ JAS. T. LURVEY of Post No. 4.

“ “ “ ALFRED M. WILLIAMS of Post No. 3.

Council of Administration.

ALONZO H. QUINT, Post No. 1.

I. H. FOLGER, Post No. 2.

F. L. GILMAN, Post No. 1.

ROBT. CROSSMAN, Post No. 3.

WM. T. SOULE, Post No. 1.

III. Until further orders the following Districts are provisionally established:—

First District. Comprising the First Congressional District, with Headquarters at New Bedford; and Comrade D. B. Coleman of Post No. 1 is hereby appointed Provisional District Commander.

Second District. Comprising the Second Congressional District, with Headquarters at Taunton; and Comrade Zaccheus Sherman of Post No. 3 is hereby appointed Provisional District Commander.

Third District. Comprising the Third and Fourth Congressional Districts. Headquarters and Provisional District Commander to be hereafter designated.

Fourth District. Comprising the Fifth Congressional District. Headquarters and Provisional District Commander to be hereafter designated.

Fifth District. Comprising the Sixth Congressional District, with Headquarters at Melrose; and Comrade Wm. N. Tyler of Post No. 4 is hereby appointed Provisional District Commander.

Sixth District. Comprising the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Congressional Districts. Headquarters and Provisional District Commander to be hereafter designated.

IV. District and Post Commanders will conform to the Rules and Regulations of the Order and to the mode of muster and enlistment herewith promulgated, and return dues and revenue and transmit reports according to Articles XII. and XIV., and Section 4 of Article V.

By order of

A. S. CUSHMAN,

Commander.

THOMAS EDWARDS,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS G.A.R., DEPT. OF MASS.,
March 8, 1867.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 2.

Commanders of Posts are hereby required to forward forthwith to these Headquarters a complete roster of their officers, and to state the number of comrades belonging to each Post.

The regular quarterly report, according to Article XIV. of the Rules and Regulations, will be made on the last day of this month: for form, see "Great Republic," No. 12.

Hereafter applications for membership will be made according to the form herewith transmitted.

By order of Department Commander,
THOS. EDWARDS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL DEPT. OF MASS.,
NEW BEDFORD, April 22, 1867.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3.

An Encampment of this Department will be convened at City Hall, in this city, on Tuesday, the 7th day of May next, at 7 o'clock, P.M., to elect permanent officers of the Department, adopt Rules and Regulations, and transact such other business as may be brought before it. Each Post in the Department will at once assemble and elect delegates thereto, in accordance with the provisions of Article XVIII., Section 1, of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic; and each delegate elected will be expected to be present. Credentials of delegates will be made out in duplicate, one copy forwarded to this office, and the other forwarded with the delegation.

A. S. CUSHMAN,
Provisional Department Commander.
THOS. EDWARDS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS G.A.R., DEPT. OF MASS., }
ROOM 3, NO. 8 BROMFIELD STREET, }
BOSTON, May 22, 1867. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4.

I. By virtue of an election held at New Bedford, on the 7th day of May now current, I hereby assume command of this Department.

II. The following officers were chosen at the same time and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

Senior Vice-Commander, A. A. GOODELL of Post No. 10.
Junior Vice-Commander, B. A. BRIDGES of Post No. 6.
Asst. Adjt.-Gen., J. T. LURVEY of Post No. 4.
Asst. Q.M.-G., H. J. HALLGREEN of Post No. 7.

Council of Administration.

A. H. QUINT of Post No. 1. S. F. KEYES of Post No. 7.
ROBT. CROSSMAN, 2d, of Post No. 3. J. G. B. ADAMS of Post No. 5.
G. H. LONG of Post No. 11.

III. The Department is hereby divided into ten districts, each comprising one Congressional district, and designated numerically in

the same manner. Until otherwise ordered Districts No. 3 and 4 will be under the charge of the same district commander. The designation of district commanders will be announced in subsequent orders.

IV. Comrade Wm. R. Melden of Lynn is appointed as agent for the sale of badges of the Order, to whom all communications respecting the same should be addressed.

J. T. LURVEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. S. CUSHMAN,
Grand Commander.

		HEADQUARTERS G.A.R., DEPT. OF MASS.,
		13 EXCHANGE STREET, ROOM 26.
GENERAL ORDERS }		BOSTON, June 10, 1867. }
No. 5. }		

I. The following-named comrades having been nominated as permanent Commanders of their respective Districts, and having been confirmed by an election of the Council of Administration, will enter upon the duties of their offices and be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

District No. 1, DAVID B. COLEMAN of New Bedford.

“ “ 2, ALFRED M. WILLIAMS of Taunton.

“ “ 3, S. F. KEYES of Boston, who will also have command of District No. 4.

“ “ 5, J. G. B. ADAMS of Lynn.

“ “ 6, WALTER EVERETT of Charlestown.

“ “ 7, IRA B. GOODRICH of Hudson.

“ “ 8, GEORGE M. WOODWARD of Worcester.

The District Commander of District No. 8 will assume command of Districts Nos. 9 and 10 until further orders.

II. Immediately upon the receipt of this order the above-named Commanders will appoint their staffs, in accordance with Section 1 of Article XVII. of the Constitution; notify these Headquarters of all appointments made, and forward as soon as issued copies of all orders and circulars issued by such District Commanders.

III. Pursuant to a vote of the Council of Administration, the Department Commander is required to instruct the several District and Post Commanders that, as Section 1, Article V. of the Constitution does not provide for the rectification of any error in balloting for candidates for initiation, hereafter only one balloting will be had; provided, however, in case of a rejection, if the Commander of the Post is satisfied that a mistake has been made in any ballot, he may order another ballot to be taken immediately thereafter, if the same comrades are present; and no other ballot shall be taken.

By order of

J. T. LURVEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. S. CUSHMAN,
Grand Commander.

		HEADQUARTERS G.A.R., DEPT. OF MASS.,
		NO. 13 EXCHANGE STREET, ROOM 26,
GENERAL ORDERS }		BOSTON, July 6, 1867. }
No. 6. }		

I. The following extracts from General Order No. 40, Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, dated June 22, 1867, are published for the information of comrades in this Department:—

"The Commanders of Departments and Provisional Departments are hereby notified that by the advice and approval of the Council of Administration their Headquarters are drawn upon for a sum of money equal to ten (10) cents for each member in their Department on the 1st day of May, 1867, as shown by the rolls; and ten (10) cents for each member afterward admitted.

"The amount of money assessed will as soon as practicable be transmitted to the Quartermaster-General, August Willich, Cincinnati, Ohio.

"The Commander-in-Chief expects the immediate fulfillment of this order. The necessary expenses attending the accumulating business of these Headquarters renders this assessment necessary."

II. Immediately upon the receipt of this Order, the Posts in this Department will transmit to the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department a sum equal to ten cents for each of their respective Posts, as shown by the rolls on the 1st day of May last; and hereafter quarterly, until further orders, a like sum for each member admitted during the quarter.

III. Comrade George M. Woodward of Worcester is hereby appointed Commander of District No. 8; he will also assume command of Districts 9 and 10, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

A. S. CUSHMAN,

Grand Commander.

J. T. LURVEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
13 EXCHANGE STREET, ROOM 26, }
BOSTON, Sept. 21, 1867. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 7. }

The following Regulations are published for the information of this command, and will be strictly observed by every Post therein:—

I. Comrades will not be admitted to Encampments of Posts in this Department upon the general password or parole merely, and sentinels will be instructed to pass within the lines only those who give the countersign of the Post, except upon the order of the Post Commander. Should any comrade who has not the countersign of the Post demand admittance, he will give his name and the number of his Post, upon receiving which the sentinel at the reserve will advance to near the center of the room, come to a shoulder, salute the Commander, and report. If any comrade present vouch for the visitor's connection with the Grand Army of the Republic, the Commander will direct the sentinel to admit him, but otherwise will instruct the Senior Vice-Commander to proceed to the outpost and test the visitor, when he will be admitted upon the favorable report of that officer, and not otherwise.

II. Countersigns will be promulgated quarterly by Post Commanders, and will never be used outside of the Encampment save when given to the sentinel to secure admittance. The countersign may, however, be changed at any time if in the judgment of the Commander it should be demanded by the interests of the Post.

III. No recruit shall be mustered by any Department or District officer under any circumstances, unless written application be made in accordance with Section 1 of Article V. of the Rules and Regulations, and the recruit be attached to a regularly-organized Post, upon the rolls of which his name shall be borne. The mustering officer will date and sign the certificate of muster on the back of the application, and forward it with the fee for enlistment and muster to the Post to which the recruit is attached. All comrades of the army in this Department not members

of any Post will join without delay the Post nearest their respective places of residence, and no person will be recognized as a comrade who is not a member of a Post.

IV. All orders will be read at the first meeting of the Post after the receipt of the same, immediately after the reading of the proceedings of the last meeting.

V. The attention of District and Post Commanders is called to Sections 1 and 2 of Article XIV. of the Constitution, as it is expected that all reports will be received at these Headquarters within ten (10) days from the end of the quarter.

VI. Comrade Horace C. Lee of Post No. 16 (Springfield), is hereby appointed Commander of District No. Ten (10), subject to the approval of the Council of Administration, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

J. T. LURVEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. S. CUSHMAN,
Grand Commander.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
13 EXCHANGE STREET, ROOM 26, }
BOSTON, Oct. 3, 1867. }

I. In order to give the comrades of this Department an opportunity to testify their respect for that eminent soldier of the Republic, Major-General PHILIP H. SHERIDAN, the Commanders of Posts will report with their commands to their respective District Commanders at the flag-staff on Franklin Street, in the city of Boston, on Monday evening next, October 7th, at 7 o'clock.

II. Commanders of Districts will report in person to the Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department at the above-named time and place.

III. Comrades will wear the army cap, and officers will also wear sash and belt. Posts will provide themselves with torches, transparencies and such other illuminations as they may desire.

IV. All who have served in the army or navy are cordially invited to unite with the Department on this occasion.

By order of

J. T. LURVEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. S. CUSHMAN,
Grand Commander.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
13 EXCHANGE STREET, ROOM 26, }
BOSTON, Nov. 6, 1867. }

I. In order to secure unity, promote concord, establish fraternity of feeling and action throughout the Department, it is essential that we should not compromise our position by entering the arena of politics upon every issue that may be created, as such issues are ever changing and are soon numbered with the past; therefore, all political action on the part of Posts in this command is forbidden. All resolutions, and any official action taken by Posts, and designed for publication, must invariably be forwarded through the proper channels to these Headquarters for the approval of the Grand Commander. Any infraction

or violation of this order will be immediately reported by Post and District Commanders.

II. The following appointments have been made, subject to the approval of the Council of Administration:—

Comrade J. H. Mackie of Post No. 1, Surgeon-General; Comrade N. M. Gaylord of Post No. 15, Chaplain, of this Department; and Comrade William Woods of Post No. 7, Commander of Districts Nos. 3 and 4, vice Comrade S. F. Keyes, resigned. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

A. S. CUSHMAN,
Grand Commander.

J. T. LURVEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
13 EXCHANGE STREET, ROOM 26, }
BOSTON, Dec. 14, 1867. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 10. }

I. At a meeting of the Council of Administration, held at these Headquarters on the 12th day of December, A.D. 1867, the appointments heretofore made by the Grand Commander in General Orders Nos. 7 and 9 respectively were approved.

II. On the thirty-first day of the current month, quarterly reports and returns, as required by the Rules and Regulations, Article XIV., Sections 1 and 2, must be promptly forwarded to District Headquarters; and District Commanders will, on or before the 4th day of January next, return their consolidated reports to these Headquarters. District Quartermaster-Generals will receive and transmit the funds required by Article XII. of said Rules and Regulations to the Quartermaster-General of the Department.

III. With the approval of the Council of Administration, the Commander hereby orders that a meeting of the Department be held in Boston on the 8th day of January next, at eleven o'clock A.M., at Hall No. 14, Washington Building, 221 Washington Street. Each Post will be entitled to one delegate for every twenty-five members. The basis of representation will be the quarterly reports, as ordered in the second paragraph of these orders. For a fraction over the multiple of twenty-five, each Post will be entitled to an additional delegate. Delegates will be chosen by the Posts on the receipt of this order, and credentials will be signed in duplicate by the adjutants and countersigned by the officer present and in command; one copy of such credentials will be transmitted to these Headquarters four days at least before said 8th day of January, and one copy be presented by the delegates themselves at said meeting. Every delegate will be expected to be present, as business of importance will be presented for consideration. District Commanders are also invited to attend.

IV. The Council of Administration have requested that the attention of the several Posts be called to the subject of the relief of soldiers' and sailors' orphans, widows of deceased soldiers and sailors, and others disabled by wounds, sickness, old age or misfortune, who are entitled to our sympathy and care; and to suggest to the several Posts that their delegates be selected with a view to devising some plan which will result in uniformity and efficiency throughout the Department.

V. Delegates will also be prepared to vote respecting the expediency of adopting a regalia or uniform for occasions of ceremony.

VI. Hereafter every applicant for enlistment and muster will be required to present his application therefor to the Post nearest to his place of residence, and no Post will muster any applicant, other than

residents in their immediate vicinity, without the consent, previously obtained, of the Post nearest which the applicant resides.

VII. A meeting of the Council of Administration will be held at these Headquarters, on the aforesaid 12th day of January, at ten o'clock A.M. It is hoped that all members of the Council will be present.

By order of

A. S. CUSHMAN,
Grand Commander.

J. T. LURVEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
13 EXCHANGE STREET, ROOM 26, }
BOSTON, Feb. 28, 1868. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 11. }

I. The following extracts from the General Orders No. 6, Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, are published for the information of comrades in this Department:—

“It is the earnest desire of the Commander-in-Chief to have the Grand Army of the Republic on a strong working basis at the earliest moment possible. No similar organization, in this or any other country, ever espoused nobler purposes or possessed greater power for good. Previous military experience has taught the value of consolidated effort. Discipline lies at the foundation of all enterprises which look for their success to the co-operation of individuals scattered over large territory. Orders must be promptly obeyed and the Rules and Regulations strictly enforced, if we are to hope for any good to result from our efforts.

“No comrade can have studied the object which we seek to attain without having perceived many ways in which, by a trifle's labor or contribution from each, great good can be accomplished.

“But all effort is futile until our organization is perfected and our strength concentrated into one harmonious body, working as a single person.

“To effect an early and efficient consolidation of the Order is the first object sought by the Commander-in-Chief; and this done, he will then have some plans to submit, which it is believed will elicit not only the approval of comrades everywhere, but will compel the admiration of those who now regard our Order with distrust or look upon it as ephemeral and a thing but of a day.

“The Rules and Regulations, as now in press, will embrace also the installation and burial ceremony, as adopted at the last Convention.

“The Ritual will only be furnished from these Headquarters, to Department Commanders, and through them to Posts. No comrade will be permitted to print the Ritual, or cause it to be printed, except upon written authority of the Commander-in-Chief. Each Post will be furnished with six (6) copies only, and these will be reported in quarterly returns. When worn too much for use they will be surrendered and new ones supplied. Department commanders will at once make requisition for the Regulations and Ritual on the above basis—one copy of the former and six of the latter for each Post. The old Ritual will be burned as soon as replaced by the new.

“All communications sent to these Headquarters, pertaining to the business of the Grand Army, must come through the ordinary channels. Members of Posts will address the Adjutant, and if he cannot answer the inquiry the communication will be forwarded to Department Headquarters, and thence to the Adjutant-General, should it be found necessary. In addressing officers, all designation or marks on the envel-

ope, such as 'O.B.,' 'G. A. R.,' or 'Dep't Com'r, G. A. R.,' etc., will be omitted. The name of the person and his address is sufficient. This precaution is thought essential to the safe transit of mail matter.

"Comrade E. Jardine of New Jersey (omitted in the list of officers given in General Orders No. 2) is announced as the duly elected Inspector-General.

II. By the revised Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, districts are abolished. In anticipation, therefore, of their promulgation, it is

Ordered, That Commanders of districts in this Department, immediately upon the receipt of this order, transmit to these Headquarters all official books, blanks and correspondence in their possession.

III. Hereafter all communication between these Headquarters and the Posts of this Department will be direct, and not through district commanders.

* * * * *

By order of

J. T. LURVEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. S. CUSHMAN,
Grand Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G. A. R.,
BOSTON, March 3, 1868.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 12. }

I. The following extracts from General Orders No. 2, Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, are published for the information of comrades of this Department:—

"It is hereby announced for the information of the Grand Army of the Republic that the following named officers have been elected and appointed for the year ending May, 1869:—

Commander-in-Chief, JOHN A. LOGAN of Illinois.

Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, JOSHUA T. OWEN of Philadelphia, Pa.

Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, JOSEPH R. HAWLEY of Hartford, Conn.

Adjutant-General, N. P. CHIPMAN of Washington City, D. C.

Quartermaster-General, T. C. CAMPBELL of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Surgeon-General, JOHN BELL of Ottumwa, Iowa.

Chaplain-General, A. H. QUINT of Massachusetts.

Council of Administration: Comrades M. F. Wentworth, Me.; D. J. Vaughn, N. H.; A. S. Cushman, Mass.; James Shaw, Jr., R. I.; G. Cummings, N. J.; T. B. Gates, N. Y.; E. W. Whittaker, Conn.; J. T. Hartranft, Pa.; A. W. Denison, Md.; N. P. Chipman, Department of the Potomac; H. B. Banning, Ohio; Charles Craft, Ind.; Julius White, Ill.; William Philps, Mich.; Thos. J. Saunders, Iowa; J. A. Ege, Minn.; W. L. Moorehouse, Kansas; J. C. Fletcher, Mo.; H. D. Grant, Tenn.; J. K. Proudft, Wis.; H. C. Warmouth, La.

II. The following named comrades are announced as on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

Assistant Adjutant-General, W. T. COLLINS of Minnesota.

Assistant Inspector-General, LOUIS WAGNER of Philadelphia, Pa.

The remainder of the Staff will be announced in subsequent orders."

II. A special meeting of this Department is hereby ordered to be held at 221 Washington Street, in the City of Boston, on Thursday, the 12th day of March, at eleven (11) o'clock in the forenoon, for the installation of the officers-elect and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Department.

III. Posts organized since the 8th day of January last will at once elect delegates for the present year, in accordance with Section One (1), Article Eighteen (18) of the Constitution. Credentials of delegates will be signed in duplicate by the Adjutant and countersigned by the officer present in command, and one copy immediately transmitted direct to these Headquarters and the other presented by the delegates at the meeting aforesaid.

By order of

J. T. LURVEY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. S. CUSHMAN,

Grand Commander.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ENCAMPMENTS OF 1868.

THE second Encampment of the Department was held at 221 Washington Street, Boston, on the 8th day of January, 1868. It was called by Department Commander Cushman in General Orders No. 10, dated Dec. 14, 1867. The basis of representation was one delegate for every twenty-five members. No reports of the proceedings of this Encampment appear to have been preserved, and the press reports are extremely meager. Department Commander Cushman presided, and officers were elected as follows:—

Grand Commander, A. B. R. Sprague of Worcester.
Senior Vice-Grand Commander, George H. Peirson of Salem.
Junior Vice-Grand Commander, Mason W. Burt of Taunton.
Surgeon, J. Marcus Rice of Worcester.
Chaplain, Rev. N. M. Gaylord of Boston.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

W. G. Scandlin of Grafton,
H. C. Lee of Springfield,
F. A. Osborn of Boston,
William S. Cobb of New Bedford,
H. R. Sibley of Charlestown.

Austin S. Cushman of New Bedford, L. E. Stewart of Hudson and W. R. Melden of Lynn were elected delegates to the National Encampment, with F. A. Osborn of Boston as an alternate.

It was ordered that the Department Headquarters remain in Boston. They were then, as appears from General Orders, established at 13 Exchange Street, Room 26. Subsequently, under Department Commander Sprague, they were removed to

50 Bromfield Street, where they remained during Commander Sprague's term.

In the brief account of the Encampment which appears in the Boston *Journal* it is stated that General Banks sent a letter to the Encampment, declining the position of Grand Commander.

Department Commander-elect Sprague was present at the Convention and accepted the office to which he was chosen; but none of the officers elect were installed until March 12, 1868, when a special meeting for the purpose was held at 221 Washington Street, Boston, in accordance with General Orders No. 12, issued by Department Commander Cushman.

Department Commander Sprague's first General Order is dated March 12; and in it he announces Thomas Sherwin, Jr., of Boston as Assistant Adjutant-General, H. J. Hallgreen of Boston as Assistant Quartermaster-General, E. P. Halstead of Worcester as Assistant Inspector-General; and Josiah Pickett of Worcester, A. S. Hartwell of Natick, C. G. Attwood of Boston, and J. W. Kimball of Fitchburg, as Aides.

SEMI-ANNUAL CONVENTION, 1868.

A semi-annual convention of the Department was held at 817 Washington Street, Boston, on the 16th of July, 1868, in pursuance of a vote passed at the special meeting on the 12th of March. About two hundred delegates were present. Sundry by-laws were adopted, and it was voted to hold the next annual Encampment at Worcester.



A. B. R. SPRAGUE,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1868.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ENCAMPMENT AT WORCESTER,

1869.

THE Third Annual Encampment of the Department was held in Washburn Hall, Worcester, on the 20th of January, 1869. The Encampment met at 11 A.M., and continued in session until 4 P.M., without recess. About two hundred delegates were present and Department Commander Sprague presided.

In his address the Department Commander said : —

The first Post in the State was chartered on the 4th day of October, 1866. The Department of Massachusetts was permanently organized on the 7th day of May, 1867, and at the commencement of the year 1868 forty Posts had been duly chartered and the names of about 1,900 members inscribed upon our rolls.

At a meeting of the National Encampment, held in the city of Philadelphia on the 15th, 16th and 17th days of January last, important changes were made in the revision of the Rules and Regulations as well as in our Ritual.

The District system was abolished, bringing Post and Post officers into direct communication with Headquarters. This change secured uniformity in system and punctuality in dispatch of business, while it added largely to the duties imposed upon the Assistant Adjutant-General and without question has materially retarded the establishment of Posts in sparsely settled portions of our Commonwealth.

To facilitate the transaction of business, Headquarters having been established at Boston, by the courtesy of Comrade Edward J. Jones rooms were secured in Bromfield Street free of cost; and to relieve the Assistant Adjutant-General of a portion of the detail of the office, I appointed Comrade C. W. Thompson Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

During the past year the record of our Department will, we believe, compare favorably with any other. From forty Posts and less than 2,000 members, we have increased to seventy-seven Posts and more than 6,000 members.

The Commander-in-Chief, remembering the noble sacrifice of the gallant dead, wisely set apart the 30th day of May last "for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of those who died in the defense of their country during the late Rebellion."

In this Department the day was observed with becoming solemnity. To the humblest grave and the costliest monument alike, the choicest flowers and freshest garlands were borne by comrades' hands and, with appropriate ceremonies, tenderly strewn in memory of the gallant ones who thought that "to die in Freedom's cause was something gained, and nothing lost to fall."

In answer to a call from the proper authorities, this Department sent a quantity of flags to decorate the graves of our comrades buried in the vicinity of Richmond.

Comrades, today it is your duty to designate such officers as are elective, into whose hands shall be committed the direction of the interests of our Order in this Department for the ensuing year.

I fully appreciate the unsolicited honor which was conferred when the important trust, which I surrender into your hands today, was committed to my keeping for the term now closing; and I embrace this occasion, coupled with the announcement that I am not a candidate for re-election, to make grateful acknowledgment for the prompt assistance rendered by the Council of Administration and for the uniform courtesy extended to me at all times by my associates.

I bear special testimony to the marked ability, fidelity and energy with which Assistant Adjutant-General Sherwin has discharged the important duties of his office. With a clear head, an honest heart, and a just perception of the objects we hope to accomplish, he has labored faithfully and assiduously, and is entitled to receive your warmest commendation and my personal gratitude.

Officers were elected as follows:—

Gen. Francis A. Osborn of Boston, Department Commander.

Gen. J. Pickett of Worcester, Senior Vice-Commander.

Gen. Horace C. Lee of Springfield, Junior Vice-Commander.

Samuel A. Green, M.D., of Boston, Surgeon.

Rev. Wm. S. Scandlin of Grafton, Chaplain.

Representative at Large to National Convention: A. B. R. Sprague of Worcester.

Council of Administration: A. B. R. Sprague of Worcester, Henry R. Sibley of Charlestown, Wm. S. Cobb of New Bedford, Luke Lyman of Northampton and Geo. H. Peirson of Salem.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1868-69.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, March 12, 1868.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 1. }

The undersigned, having been duly elected Grand Commander of this Department for the ensuing year, hereby assumes command, with Headquarters in the City of Boston.

The following named officers have been elected and appointed, and they will be respected accordingly: —

Senior Vice Grand Commander, GEORGE H. PEIRSON of Salem.

Junior Vice Grand Commander, MASON W. BURT of Taunton.

Assistant Adjutant-General, THOMAS SHERWIN, JR., of Boston,

Assistant Quartermaster-General, H. J. HALLGREEN of Boston.

Assistant Inspector-General, E. P. HALSTED of Worcester.

Surgeon, J. MARCUS RICE of Worcester.

Chaplain, Rev. N. M. GAYLORD of Boston.

Council of Administration.

Comrade W. G. SCANDLIN of Grafton.

“ H. C. LEE of Springfield.

“ F. A. OSBORN of Boston.

“ WILLIAM S. COBB of New Bedford.

“ H. R. SIBLEY of Charlestown.

Aides.

Comrade J. PICKETT of Worcester.

“ A. S. HARTWELL of Natick.

“ C. G. ATTWOOD of Boston.

“ J. W. KIMBALL of Fitchburg.

Official:

THOS. SHERWIN, JR.,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,

Grand Commander.

N.B. Copies of the New Ritual are now ready for issue by Assistant Quartermaster-General Hallgreen, 14 Exchange Street, to comrades authorized to receive them by Post Commanders.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, March 18, 1868.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 2. }

I. Until further notice the Headquarters of this Department will be established at Room 11, No. 50 Bromfield Street, Boston.

II. Comrade Charles W. Thompson, of Post 15, is hereby designated as Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, and will at once report for duty at Department Headquarters, where he may be found by comrades who desire information upon affairs pertaining to the interests of the Order, between the hours of 9 A.M. and 5 P.M.

III. To ensure uniformity in the transaction of official business, all communications from the several Posts to Department Headquarters should be written upon paper of the ordinary letter size, addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General, and signed by the Post Commander or senior officer present. The letter should be folded twice, and endorsed upon the first (or upper) fold, as follows :—

Headquarters Post.....

.....Mass 186

.....
Post Commander or other officer.

(Here state briefly the contents of the letter.)

N.B. If there are enclosures, it should also be noted below the synopsis of the letter's contents.

The direction upon the envelope should be simply "Thomas Sherwin, Jr., Boston, Mass.," with nothing to indicate the document as an official paper of the Order.

By order of

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,
Grand Commander.

THOS. SHERWIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, March 24, 1868.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3.

I. In conformity with Section 1, Article XIV., Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic for 1868, Post Commanders will, on the 31st inst., and subsequently on the last days of June, September and December, forward to these Headquarters the Quarterly Reports of their respective Posts, upon blanks to be furnished for that purpose.

II. The Post Quartermaster's Report, required by Section 2, Article XIV., will be sent direct to the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department transmitting the amount of dues for the quarter.

The estimate of this amount will be based upon the entire number of members borne upon the rolls on the date of report, at the rate of two and a half cents per member.

Per order

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,
Grand Commander.

T. SHERWIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

* * * * *

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
50 BROMFIELD STREET, ROOM 11,
BOSTON, May 16, 1868. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 7.

In transmitting General Orders No. 11, Grand Army of the Republic, to the Posts of this Department, the Grand Commander deems it unwise to prescribe any uniform manner of showing our respect for our deceased comrades, but leaves to each Post to adopt such ceremony as may seem most appropriate.

To perpetuate and keep bright the memory of our former comrades-in-arms by every testimonial of affection is left to us as a sacred trust and duty—a peculiar privilege. On the 30th day of May the members of our Order throughout the Nation will be engaged in decorating with floral tributes the resting-places of the fallen. It is befitting that men, strong and brave in the hour of danger, should thus show their regard for those who fell, whose worth we learned to know and appreciate.

The men of Massachusetts, the blood of whose sons was the first to flow in defense of the Nation's honor, will not be behind their brethren of other States in testifying by their presence and coöperation their interest in the occasion.

Every comrade of the Grand Army should assist in the work, and every soldier's and sailor's grave should be visited.

The Grand Commander suggests that Posts unite, in localities where it is practicable, to make the ceremony at the larger cemeteries more imposing; that every Post take measures to ensure that all burial-places in its vicinity, containing the graves of comrades, be visited by the Post in a body, or a deputation of its members; that churches and citizens generally be invited to contribute flowers and join in the services of the day.

It is also suggested that the coöperation of the ladies, whose ardent enthusiasm and loyalty furnished such lofty inspiration to our armies during the war, is especially desirable, to perfect, in its full measure, our tribute of honor; and he recommends that they be everywhere cordially invited to lend their aid.

By order of

.....
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,
Grand Commander.

GENERAL ORDERS } No. 8.	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., } 50 BROMFIELD STREET, ROOM 11, } BOSTON, June 3, 1868. }
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I. The Grand Commander takes this occasion to congratulate the members of the Order in this Department for the successful manner in which the Memorial observances of Saturday last were celebrated. By the earnest and united efforts of our comrades the occasion was made one creditable to all engaged in it.

The cordial interest shown by all classes of citizens throughout the State illustrates how tenderly the memory of our fallen comrades-in-arms is cherished in the hearts of the community.

II. Post Commanders are requested to report at once to these Headquarters the part taken by their respective Posts, or by delegations therefrom, in the ceremonies of the day, in order that the record may be preserved of this first Memorial Day, an anniversary hereafter to be observed, it is hoped, with ever-increasing interest.

Commanders will report the number of comrades participating in the ceremonies; the cemeteries and burial-places visited; the number of graves decorated with flowers; the order of exercises, and all other facts of importance.

By order of

CHARLES W. THOMPSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,
Grand Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 50 BROMFIELD STREET, ROOM 11, }
 BOSTON, June 16, 1868. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 9. }

I. The reports for the second quarter of the current year, prescribed by Article XIV., Section 1, of the Rules and Regulations, will be due on the 30th inst. They should be sent by the retiring Post Commander, and accompanied by a complete roster of the officers-elect. The Grand Commander requests that there may be no delay in sending these reports, since it is only by promptness in transmitting them from every Post that his own report of the Department can be sent to Washington in due season.

II. By the advice of the Council of Administration, the Department dues for this quarter are fixed at five cents for each comrade borne upon the rolls on the day of report. The sum thus assessed should be sent to Assistant Quartermaster-General H. J. Hallgreen, 14 Exchange Street, Boston, by post-office orders or checks, rather than by mail.

In this connection the Grand Commander informs the officers and comrades of the several Posts that, previous to Memorial Day, some fifteen hundred flags were sent to the Department of Virginia from these Headquarters, and served to decorate a portion of the graves of Union soldiers who lie buried there to the number of nearly one hundred thousand.

III. In pursuance of the vote passed at the last special meeting, the stated meeting of this Department will be held in Boston, at 11 o'clock A.M., on Thursday, July 16th, in the upper hall, 817 Washington Street, corner Lucas (entrance on Lucas Street). Each Post is entitled to representation, based upon the number of its members as established by Article XVII., Section 1, Rules and Regulations. The credentials of delegates will be sent to these Headquarters, signed by the retiring Post Commander and Adjutant, within one week after the election, and a duplicate of the same furnished to the Assistant Adjutant-General when the delegates assemble.

IV. Charters for the formation of new Posts will hereafter be granted only upon the petition of at least ten applicants, already members of the Grand Army, duly mustered and in good standing, who will thereupon secure transfer cards from the Posts in which they have acquired membership.

This restriction, but lately imposed by the Commander-in-Chief, will not result. It is hoped, in checking the growth of our Order; but it will ensure the permanent success of Posts which may be established in this way, and guard us against men who would be a detriment to us if admitted without the investigation into character and record which every candidate must undergo before his admission into a Post.

It increases the duty of every comrade, for it devolves upon him the responsibility of inviting and urging to join such men as will add to our strength and usefulness. The principles upon which the Grand Army is founded are not exclusive. The privileges of membership should be extended to every man who bore a creditable part in Army or Navy, in suppressing the Rebellion; and all such are needed, to perfect our power for assisting the needy and promoting the comrade spirit.

The Grand Commander earnestly requests the Posts throughout the Department to coöperate with him, by the muster and transfer of comrades, in establishing Posts in localities accessible to all who should be of our number and wherever they promise success.

By order of

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,
Grand Commander.

THOS. SHERWIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
50 BROMFIELD STREET, ROOM 11, }
BOSTON, Dec. 21, 1868. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 10. }

I. For the purpose of ascertaining whether business is conducted on a uniform and correct system in all the Posts of this Department, a special inspection has been ordered. The duty of visiting the Posts has been distributed as follows:—

1. Posts 1 at New Bedford, 3 at Taunton, 8 at Middleborough, 46 at Fall River, 52 at North Easton, and 72 at Stoughton, will be inspected by Commander A. M. Williams of Post 3.

2. Posts 4 at Melrose, 5 at Lynn, 12 at Wakefield, 33 at Woburn, 34 at Salem, and 35 at Chelsea, by Commander J. G. B. Adams of Post 5.

3. Posts 6 at Holliston, 14 at Hopkinton, 18 at Ashland, 22 at Milford, and 70 at Franklin, by Commander George L. Sanborn of Post 6.

4. Posts 7 and 15 at Boston, 11 at Charlestown, 23 at East Boston, 26 at Boston Highlands, and 32 at South Boston, by Comrade Orson Moulton of Post 15.

5. Posts 9 at Hudson, 43 at Marlborough, 54 at Berlin, 59 at Sterling, and 64 at Clinton, by S. V.-Commander C. H. Williams of Post 9.

6. Posts 10 at Worcester, 20 at Paxton, 21 at Westboro, 24 at Grafton, 25 at Uxbridge, 27 at Oxford, 28 at West Boylston, 37 at Spencer, 60 at Whitinsville, and 61 at Webster, by Commander J. A. Titus of Post 10.

7. Posts 13 at North Bridgewater, 40 at North Weymouth, 58 at Weymouth, and 68 at Dorchester, by Comrade B. F. Pratt of Post 40.

8. Posts 16 at Springfield, and 41 at Westfield, by Commander H. M. Phillips of Post 16.

9. Posts 17 at Orange, 36 at Amherst, 44 at Northampton, and 71 at Holyoke, by Commander Luke Lyman of Post 44.

10. Posts 19 at Fitchburg, 31 at Ashburnham, 48 at Groton, 53 at Leominster, and 69 at Westminster, by Commander T. L. Barker of Post 19.

11. Posts 29 at Waltham, 62 at Newton, and 63 at Natick, by S. V.-Commander A. B. Underwood of Post 62.

12. Posts 30 at Cambridgeport, 56 at Cambridge, 57 at East Cambridge, and 66 at Medford, by Comrade J. W. Coveney of Post 57.

13. Posts 38 at Brookfield, 50 at Barre, 51 at North Brookfield, 55 at Southbridge, and 65 at Warren, by Adjutant Rynier Rutan of Post 38.

14. Post 39 at Lawrence, 42 at Lowell, 47 at Haverhill, and 49 at Newburyport, by Commander H. G. O. Weymouth of Post 42.

15. Posts 45 at Gloucester and 67 at Manchester, by Commander A. F. Tremaine of Post 45.

II. It was voted by the Council of Administration that traveling expenses of the Department Inspectors be paid from the Department funds, and that the Posts be requested to defray the local expenses of the comrades by whom they are visited, in pursuance of this order.

III. Blanks for Quarterly Reports have been already sent to each Post. The Grand Commander earnestly requests that there be no delay in transmitting the reports to this office promptly on the last day of the month. The Roster of Officers should give the names of those newly elected, and the report should be signed by the retiring Post Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster. It is not expected that the columns headed "Occupation" and "Entry into Service" upon the Muster Roll of Recruits will be filled, these particulars not having been required of applicants for muster. If the space upon the Muster Roll is not found sufficient, additional blanks may be ruled to complete the list of Recruits.

Commanders whose Posts have selected names for their Encampments are requested to report such names under the heading "Additional Remarks." The Grand Commander also desires a statement of any enterprise of general interest in which the several Posts may have been engaged; the concerts, lectures, and other entertainments given under the auspices of the Grand Army during the year, the amounts realized thereby, and the extent to which Posts have been enabled to assist needy soldiers and sailors or their families.

The Quarterly Report should be sent to the Assistant Adjutant-General; the Quarterly Dues, of 5 cents per member, as fixed by Article VI. of the Department By-Laws, to Asst. Q.M.-Gen. H. J. Hallgreen, 14 Exchange Street, Boston.

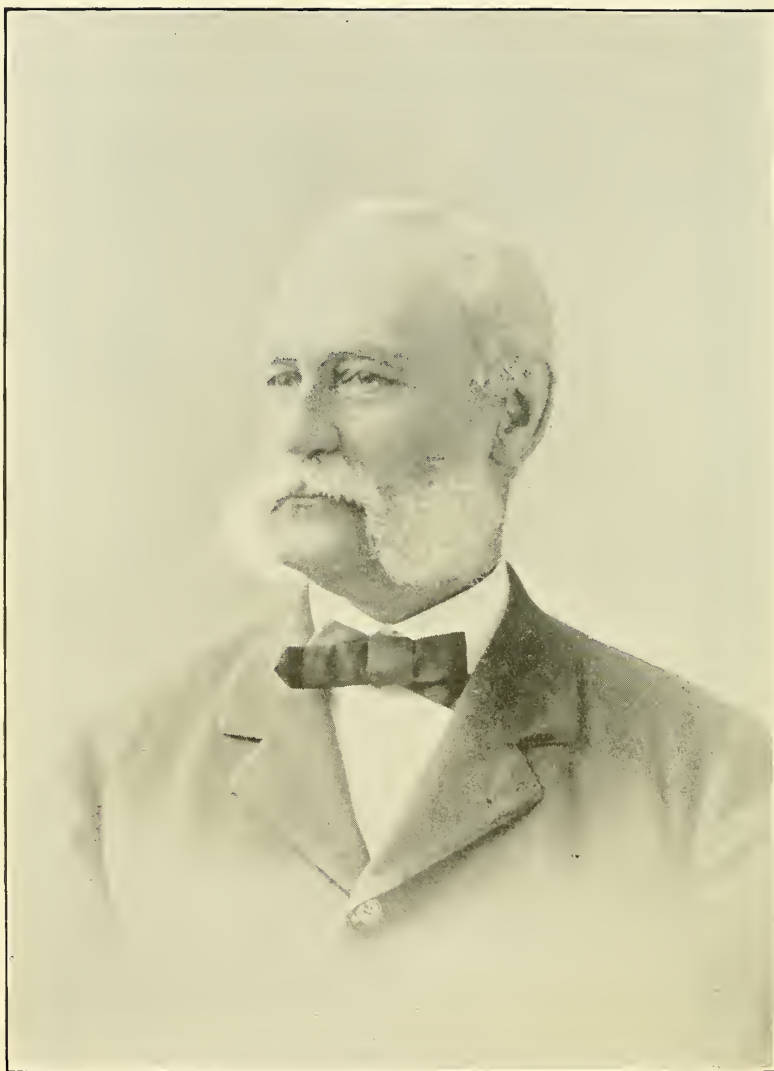
IV. In pursuance of the vote of the Department in Convention, July 16, 1868, the next regular meeting of the Department will be held at Waldo Hall, Worcester, at 11 o'clock A.M., Wednesday, Jan. 20, 1869. Credentials of delegates, signed by Post Commander and Adjutant, will be sent to this office immediately after their election, and duplicates of the same presented to the Assistant Adjutant-General, by the delegates themselves, when the Convention assembles.

V. Paragraph IV. of General Order No. 9 is hereby revoked.

By order of

A. B. R. SPRAGUE,
Grand Commander.

THOS. SHERWIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.



FRANCIS A. OSBORN,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1869.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ENCAMPMENT AT NEW BEDFORD,

1870.

THE delegates to the Annual Convention assembled at New Bedford, January 19, at 11 A.M., in pursuance to General Order No. 12, series 1869.

In the absence of the Commanders the meeting was called to order by Comrade W. S. Cobb of Post 1, senior member of the Council of Administration. Comrade A. B. Underwood of Post 62 was chosen as temporary Chairman. Subsequently it was voted that he should act as permanent Chairman of the Convention.

A Committee on Credentials, of which Comrade Fox of Post 68 was chairman, was appointed, who subsequently reported that 79 Posts were represented by 190 delegates. It appearing that certain Posts were not entitled, under the Constitution, to representation, by reason of their failure to make the prescribed returns to Department Headquarters, it was finally voted that their delegates be admitted if some member of each delegation would become personally responsible that the required reports and dues should be forwarded within ten days.

The Chairman appointed Comrade Hurlburt of Post 1 as Officer of the Day, and Comrade Charles E. Rice of Post 15 as Officer of the Guard.

By a two-thirds vote the Grand Rounds were omitted.

ROLL CALL.

Present: S. Hovey, Jr., Acting Assistant Adjutant-General; W. S. Greenough, Acting Assistant Quartermaster-General; O. Moulton, Department Inspector; Samuel A. Green, Medical Director; W. S. Cobb, Council; Henry R. Sibley, Council; Luke Lyman, Council.

Absent: F. A. Osborn, Commander; Josiah Pickett, Senior Vice-Commander; H. C. Lee, Junior Vice-Commander; Thos. Sherwin, Assistant Adjutant-General; W. G. Scandlin, Chaplain; A. B. R. Sprague, Council; Geo. H. Peirson, Council.

By invitation of the Chairman, Rev. Dr. A. H. Quint, Chaplain-in-Chief to the National Encampment, offered a prayer.

It was voted that the charter members of Post 1, New Bedford, be admitted to the gallery.

The records of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Comrade Sibley of Post 11, of the Council of Administration, made a report that the Council had considered a resolution referred to them at the last Convention, prohibiting Posts from decorating in cemeteries located in other cities and towns, without the consent of the Posts there located; concluded with a recommendation that the further consideration of the subject be indefinitely postponed. Report accepted and recommendation adopted.

The regular order of business having been suspended by a two-thirds vote, it was voted, on motion of Comrade Fox, that a committee of five be appointed by the Chair to consider and report upon the expediency of recommending a change of the Ritual and grades of this Order to the National Encampment, to meet in Washington in May next; and in case they shall report in favor of a change, propose some plan for the same; and that all propositions for a change in said Ritual be referred to said committee without debate.

The Chair appointed on this committee Comrades Fox of Post 68, Bates of Post 58, Quint of Post 1, Blackmar of Post 113 and Lyman of Post 44, who subsequently reported a recommendation that the delegates to the National Encampment be instructed to advocate the change in the number of grades, reducing them to one, and that the Department has no power to make the use of the Ritual in this Department optional with the Posts. A draft of a ritual was submitted by this Committee, which is here omitted for obvious reasons. Report accepted and recommendation adopted.

It was then voted to take an informal ballot for Commander, which resulted as follows:—

Whole number received	166
James L. Bates of Post 58, Weymouth, had	96
Wm. Cogswell of Post 34, Salem	69
S. E. Chamberlain of Post 30, Cambridge	1
	— 166
Upon the formal ballot the whole number received	
was	163
Necessary for a choice	82
James L. Bates of Post 58, Weymouth, had	110
Wm. Cogswell of Post 34, Salem	53
	— 163

And Comrade James L. Bates was declared elected. Upon motion of Comrade Blackmar of Post 113, the vote was declared unanimous; and Comrade Bates being introduced to the Convention, accepted the office and tendered his thanks in a brief address.

On the informal ballot for Senior Vice-Commander, the whole number of votes received was 139, of which Comrade H. M. Phillips of Post 16, Springfield, had 117; scattering, 22. On motion of Comrade Emery of Post 26, it was unanimously voted to dispense with a formal ballot; and Comrade H. M. Phillips was declared elected as Senior Vice-Commander.

The Convention then proceeded with an informal ballot for Junior Vice-Commander:—

Whole number received	129
Of which Comrade W. O. Fiske of Post 42,	
Lowell, had	72
Comrade Jas. Brown of Post 3, Taunton	26
Comrade Rob't Cowdin of Post 7, Boston	21
Scattering	10
	— 129

On a formal ballot the number was	175
Necessary for a choice	88
Comrade W. O. Fiske of Post 42 had	110

And upon motion, Comrade W. O. Fiske was declared unanimously elected as Junior Vice-Commander.

Upon ballot, the following were unanimously elected:—

Dr. Samuel A. Green of Post 15, Boston, as Medical Director.

Rev. Horace James of Post 42, Lowell, as Chaplain.

Upon motion, a committee of ten, selected so as to give each portion of the State its proper share, was appointed to report a

list of candidates for Council of Administration and delegates to National Encampment. The Committee submitted majority and minority reports, which were both laid upon the table, and the Convention proceeded to ballot for members of the Council of Administration. The following were declared elected:—

Comrade W. S. Cobb of Post 1, New Bedford.

“ Henry R. Sibley of Post 11, Charlestown.

“ Luke Lyman of Post 44, Northampton.

“ John W. Kimball of Post 19, Fitchburg.

On motion of Comrade Blackmar of Post 113, it was unanimously voted to dispense with a formal ballot for the fifth member, and that Comrade J. E. Hollis of the navy be declared elected.

It was voted to take from the table so much of the report of the nominating committee as related to the delegates to National Encampment.

Upon ballot the following were declared elected:—

Comrade and Rev. Dr. A. H. Quint of Post 1, New Bedford.

“ Chas. B. Fox of Post 68, Dorchester.

“ Geo. S. Merrill of Post 39, Lawrence.

“ S. E. Chamberlain of Post 30, Cambridge.

“ C. C. Emery of Post 26, Boston Highlands.

“ A. B. Underwood of Post 62, Newton.

“ E. M. Chamberlain of Post 7, Boston.

On motion of Comrade Emery of Post 26, it was voted, “That the delegates to the National Encampment be instructed to present and urge an amendment to the Rules and Regulations which shall erase the word ‘June’ in Section 1, Article VII., Chapter II.” (Thus making the term of office in Posts twelve months instead of six.)

On motion of Comrade Sibley of Post 11, it was voted, “That the July session of the Department be held in Charlestown.”

On motion of Comrade Seaverns of Post 26, it was voted, “That the proper officers of the Department be directed to prepare for publication a record of the proceedings of this Convention, together with the reports of the Department officers, the same to be distributed to the various Posts in the Department.

On motion, it was voted to refer all unfinished business to the Council of Administration for action.

On motion, it was unanimously voted that the thanks of the Convention be tendered to Comrade A. B. Underwood, for the prompt and impartial manner in which he has conducted the unusually trying duties of Chairman of the Convention.

On motion of Comrade Emery of Post 26, it was unanimously voted that the sincere thanks of the Convention be tendered to the retiring officers for the faithful, efficient and courteous manner in which all business has been conducted in the several departments.

Adjourned.

S. HOVEY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDRESS OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.

BOSTON, Jan. 18, 1870.

Comrades:

The year of my official service as Commander of this Department has expired. It would have been more agreeable to me, and perhaps more satisfactory to you, if I could have appeared before you in person to render up the trust with which I have been charged; but I am deprived of that pleasure by the imperative requirements of my business, which will not permit me to absent myself from Boston at present for even one day.

The growth of the Grand Army in this Department has steadily continued. The number of Posts, which was 77 when I assumed command in January last, is now 117, showing an increase of 40, or about 52 per cent. Four other applications are on the way to Headquarters. Most of these new Posts are thought to be favorably situated for becoming strong organizations, and some have already attained a position of numerical importance. I cannot state the number of comrades now borne upon the rolls, for the reason that very many of the reports of Posts for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1869, have not been received, and that many of those which have come to hand have been returned for correction. It will probably appear, however, that although large numbers of recruits have been mustered during the year, the increase of the aggregate is not marked. This is to be accounted for by the fact that many comrades, whose interest has grown lukewarm, have neglected to take the second and third grades and have been dropped from the rolls. That a large number of these can be inspired with renewed interest I believe to be probable, and I recommend special effort in that direction.

The reports of Staff officers will give you all needed information upon their respective departments.

At the Convention in July last, certain subjects were referred to the Council of Administration for their investigation. Their reports upon those subjects will be laid before you, and I commend their suggestions therein to your careful consideration.

The most important occurrence of the past year has been the adoption by the National Encampment of new Rules and Regulations, establishing three grades of membership, and of a new Ritual to conform thereto. Upon the promulgation of these Regulations and Ritual, some opposition was manifested to them, partly upon the ground that they required of those already in full fellowship with the Order new obligations as the price of retaining that fellowship and its resulting advantages, of which no person, nor even the whole body of the Grand Army, had the right to deprive any member, except as a punishment for misconduct. However valid this objection might be theoretically, it seemed to be thought by the mass of the comrades of no practical importance, in comparison with the benefits to be derived from continuance in harmonious relations with the other Departments (which so far as heard from have conformed to the new Rules without reluctance), and the opposition was overborne. The Posts throughout the Department were furnished with the new Ritual and work as rapidly as the force of Assistant Inspectors could communicate it. Upon the approach of the date fixed by the National Encampment as the limit of the opportunity of comrades to take the new degrees of right without a ballot, I had numerous inquiries as to the possibility of extending the time of such right. As I did not concede that the National Encampment had the power to fix such a limit, I uniformly replied that I should make no investigation as to the date upon which the new degrees should be conferred upon a comrade already mustered and in good standing. At a subsequent meeting of the National Encampment the wisdom of this decision was affirmed by an extension of time. The fixing of a second limit, however, virtually denied the principle on which that decision was based, which I regret, as I still believe it to be the true one. From the reports of the Inspector, I am led to believe that the new system has generally been accepted cordially and tried in good faith, and that it has had a reasonable success. That improvements can be suggested is only what was to be expected: no system is perfected by theory alone. It is only after actual working has pointed out its shortcomings, and suggested the way to remedy them, that anything approaching to perfection begins to appear. Among the improvements which seem to be called for are: 1. A change from three grades to two. 2. Permission for newly-mustered comrades to vote and take an active part in the affairs of the Post at once, with a probation of six months before becoming eligible to hold office. 3. A reduction of the Ritual, which is now tedious, to a

length which will allow it to be committed to memory by the officers. I believe these changes would be beneficial, and I commend them to your favorable consideration. Such as may be approved by you, your delegates may be instructed to urge upon the National Encampment. Conference with other Departments, through your Commander, will be desirable in the meantime.

Before closing I wish to allude to a subject upon which my thoughts have dwelt very much of late. I refer to the necessity for greater forbearance among comrades, and a more charitable interpretation of each other's acts and motives. I have observed, I regret to say, that comrades are inclined to be captious, tenacious of their rights to the uttermost, sensitive on the score of dignity, and quick to take offense. It is not in matters of moment; for in such I am convinced that the brotherly kindness born of a community of danger and suffering in a holy cause would overbear all other feelings and ensure a unity of sentiment and action; but it is in petty matters—trifles too light to awaken the fraternal feeling—that this ungracious spirit is manifest. Let me earnestly entreat you to a constant and watchful repression of it; for during its existence true harmony is impossible, and consequently true prosperity.

I desire to express my grateful appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Comrade Sherwin in the responsible and delicate position of Assistant Adjutant-General. To him is attributable the largest part of any success which may have attended the Administration of the past year. The thoroughness and efficiency with which Assistant Quartermaster-General Greenough and Inspector Moulton have conducted their respective departments must have been apparent to all who have been brought in connection with them, and to none more than to myself. To them, and to the other officers of the general and personal Staff, I desire to convey my thanks for the able assistance rendered during the year now past.

And now, comrades, I bid you an official farewell. I thank you for the honor you conferred upon me by electing me to the office which I am now about to lay down, and still more for the kindly spirit and generous confidence you have always manifested toward me. I beg you to accept my best wishes for your individual prosperity and for the advancement of the Grand Army of the Republic.

FRANCIS A. OSBORN.

*To the Department Encampment,
Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.*

REPORT OF ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. MASS., G.A.R.,

BOSTON, Jan. 17, 1870.

Commander FRANCIS A. OSBORN and Members of the Department of Massachusetts:

At the last meeting of this Department, held in Boston, July 21, 1869, certain business was left unfinished, being referred to the Council of Administration for action and subsequent report. In compliance with the wishes of the Convention, the following communication was sent to Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic:—

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. MASS., G.A.R.,

BOSTON, Nov. 24, 1869.

General: I have the honor to state that at the last Convention of this Department a resolution (of which a copy is hereunto appended) was referred to the Council of Administration, with instructions to correspond with you in reference to the subject. I have accordingly been instructed by the Council to state that the comrades of the Grand Army within this jurisdiction have ever manifested a lively interest in "Memorial Day"; not only observing it with impressive ceremonies, but being able to secure for it suitable recognition by the people and the authorities generally. We have been, however, unable to procure such supply of flowers as we could desire; often those obtained being purchased at a high rate, because on the 30th day of May the season is not far enough advanced to mature them to any considerable extent. The Council are of opinion that the adoption of a day some two weeks later would remedy the difficulty, while the difference would not be materially felt in the more southern Departments; and they have, therefore, instructed me to request you to substitute for the 30th day of May the second Wednesday of June, or such other day later than the 30th day of May as shall seem to you reasonable and proper. A day of the week rather than a day of the month is asked for, to the end that "Memorial Day" may not again occur upon the Sabbath, as in that case some Posts observe Saturday, others Monday, thus breaking uniformity. Entertaining no doubt but that the change would be acceptable to most, if not all, the most northern Departments, and sincerely hoping that you will find it consistent with your duty to grant this petition, I remain, General,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,

Commanding Department.

A copy of the above letter was sent to the Headquarters of the Departments of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York, requesting that these Departments co-operate with us in securing a change of date. No answers have yet been received from any source; but it is believed that all that is possible has been done by this Department to effect the object which is so desirable.

On the question of the adoption of a badge for the comrades of this Department, the Council voted that the badge adopted by the National Encampment be recommended for adoption by this Department.

The relative strength of the Department at different periods during the time I have occupied the position to which I had the honor to be elected in June, 1868, may be stated as follows:—

March 20, 1868, 52 Posts, 2,700 Comrades.

June 30, 1868, 57 “ 4,361 “

A gain of about 60 per cent.

Dec. 31, 1868, 73 Posts, 6,189 Comrades.

A gain of about 40 per cent.

June 30, 1869, 103 Posts, 9,233 Comrades.

A gain of nearly 50 per cent.

Three months later, Sept. 30, 1869, the entire number of comrades who had taken the obligations of the new grades was 7,524: showing a loss of membership of 1,709. The strength of the Department Dec. 31, 1869, was 117 Posts and 9,000 comrades: showing a gain since Sept. 30 of 1,476. That the growth of the Department has been materially retarded by the new organization imposed by the National Encampment which met at Cincinnati May 13, 1869, there can be no question. Had the rate of increase been the same for the six months subsequent to June 30, 1869, as for the six months prior to that, we should now have nearly 14,000 comrades in this Department, instead of about 9,000 as at present.

That the complications of the new system and the appearance of additional secrecy have repelled many whom we should have been glad to welcome as comrades, and have lost to the Grand Army many who, though not active and zealous members, contributed their money and in so far their strength to the Order, the experience of six months has amply demonstrated. Six months ago the Department was large, healthy and vigorous and efficient in the accomplishment of the noble objects which it aimed to effect. *It is so today*; and by the wise liberality of the Commander-in-Chief and the National Council, in deferring from time to time the decree of proscription against those comrades who had neglected to assume the new obligations, most of the comrades may yet be retained as members.

It may readily be believed, from the reports of the Adjutant-General of the Grand Army, that some change in the organization—some stimulant to activity—was needed by other Departments; and the new system, while injurious to the Department of Massachusetts for a time, may have been of great advantage to our brothers in other States.

The relief of those who call upon the Grand Army for assistance has been most faithfully attended to by all the Posts, so far as my observation extends. I believe there has been no instance of the application of a deserving man or family for aid that has not been promptly and freely met by the Posts within whose juris-

diction the needy one was found. I have had occasion to refer such cases to the Posts lying within the immediate vicinity of Headquarters, and the applicants have been cared for in every instance when the Post called upon had funds at the disposal of the relief committee. It may be proper to mention Posts 15, 23, 26, 32, 57 and 68, as having afforded relief to several deserving persons at my request. I take pleasure in mentioning as an illustration of the spirit of fraternity prevailing in the Grand Army, the promptness with which Posts 7, 26, and 32 fulfilled the last request of a soldier, dying of wounds in the National Asylum at Augusta, Maine, that he might be buried in the soldiers' lot at Mount Hope Cemetery. By the efforts of Commander F. C. Choate and Past Commander C. C. Emery, and the courtesy of the Trustees of the Cemetery, the body was brought from Augusta, and on the 2d inst. followed to its resting-place beside the other noble spirits who, like him, had fallen in the nation's battles.

The relief funds of many Posts have been expended freely, and in some cases have been exhausted by the continual call upon them. In consequence, those in need of help have been sent to these Headquarters. In cases which I judged deserving I have advanced them money, amounting to a considerable sum during the year, and have been reimbursed, by vote of the Council, from the Department treasury. Cases of emergency must occur; and in the event of a Post being unable to do all in the way of extending relief that may be expected of it, I think that a central relief committee at Headquarters, with sub-committees in several of the larger places, should be appointed to attend to the needs of those applicants for relief who do not reside within the jurisdiction of any Post, but who are proper objects of our care.

In view of the importance of this question of relief to the needy, which was one of the prime objects for which the Grand Army was formed, and one of the strongest claims which we have advanced for consideration and assistance from the community, I suggest to the Department that a resolution be passed assigning to the Council of Administration, as one of the duties of that body, in addition to those already prescribed, the charge of rendering to the Department Commander, quarterly, a condensed statement of the amount and kind of assistance rendered to soldiers, or their families, by the relief committees of various Posts and the central committee (if any); that such blanks as are necessary be prepared and issued to the relief committees of Posts, and that those committees be required to report the amount of funds on hand, how such funds were acquired, and how expended.

I make this suggestion because, though many Posts have shown great activity and zeal in securing money by concerts, lectures, subscriptions and other ways, and have given relief to

many whom it may have saved from suffering; though many thousands of dollars have undoubtedly been secured and judiciously disbursed, the reports made upon the subject are very meager and unsatisfactory, the relief committees of Posts not furnishing to Commanders this valuable information to embody in their reports. It will be impossible to form any idea from Post Commanders' reports, for the last quarter, of the condition or disbursements of Post relief funds.

This is especially to be regretted, since, if the facts and figures could be obtained, it would be shown that we are doing a great and useful work. We owe it to ourselves, and to those who aid us with funds for the purpose, to show how much good is done by the Grand Army.

In pursuance of the vote passed at the last January meeting, the sum of \$40 per month has been expended for the employment of a clerk at Department Headquarters. I have been much assisted by Comrades Hammond and Hovey, who have been employed in the clerical duties at Headquarters. Colonel Hovey has held the position for several months, and has brought to the performance of its duties great earnestness, as well as experience in the details of the Assistant Adjutant-General's business. I have to thank him for relieving me from much of the arduous labor which falls within the province of the Assistant Adjutant-General's duties.

In taking final leave of the position which I have held now for two years, — first, by election of the Department; and second, by appointment of the Department Commander, — it seems appropriate for me to call attention to the magnitude of the duties necessarily imposed upon the Assistant Adjutant-General. There are now 117 Posts, which number will be increased to 122 within the present month. The correspondence with these Posts, with the National Headquarters and other Departments, and comrades, devolves upon the office an amount of writing which requires the constant attention of the comrade holding it. The Assistant Adjutant-General must be a man acquainted with the entire system of books and papers which prevails in the United States Army. The entire business day of the Assistant Adjutant-General should be given to his office; and to secure an incumbent who will do justice to the position, an adequate salary should be paid. The Rules and Regulations provide that such compensation shall be paid as the Department Encampment may from time to time determine. In other Departments, from one to two thousand dollars are paid to the Assistant Adjutant-General. I respectfully recommend that the Encampment take the matter into consideration, and to vote to my successor such compensation (to include the \$500 now appropriated for the pay of a clerk), as may be judged adequate to secure an officer of suitable character and attainments.

In conclusion, I beg leave to say that my intercourse with the Posts and comrades of the Department has always been of the most agreeable character, and in my official capacity I have always met with courtesy and consideration. To the efficiency and interest of those who have had the administration of the government of Posts, I attribute a great portion of the success which has distinguished the Department of Massachusetts and placed it foremost in the ranks of the Grand Army. Through the whole history of this Department, from its inception in February, 1867, to the present time, when we are almost a legion strong, the Grand Army in this State has ever been true to the principles upon which it was founded — loyalty to country, fraternity among comrades, kindness and care for the needy and distressed. It has been united in good works, never vacillating from the lofty principles which should govern us; and we now stand secure of the public approbation and recognized as a power and an institution in the land. I take leave to introduce here, for the information of the Encampment, a letter recently received from National Headquarters: —

[COPY.]

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,

NO. 411 F ST., WASHINGTON, Dec. 27, 1869.

Gen. THOS. SHERWIN, *Assistant Adjutant-General Dept. of Mass.*

Dear Sir and Comrade: I take great pleasure in testifying to the correctness and accuracy of your report from your Department for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1869. Among all the reports received none can show so favorably, or can exhibit a better state of discipline, than the various Posts of your Department.

I have delayed this acknowledgment purposely, in order that I might ascertain if there was any other Department that would compete with yours; but Massachusetts stands preëminently No. 1, just where it should stand.

Allow me, my dear General, to congratulate you, and the Posts of your Department, for your efficiency in the good work; and I trust that each quarter's report may exhibit a constant and steady increase in membership.

* * * * *

Yours, in F., C. and L.,

(Signed)

HANSON E. WEAVER,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

THOMAS SHERWIN,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

Sir Department Commander: I have the honor to present a brief statement of the Inspector's department for the year 1869.

From February 1 to June 1, 48 of the 77 Posts organized prior to Jan. 1, 1869, were inspected. The work being changed by the National Encampment, at their meeting in Cincinnati, last May, it was considered best not to go on with the inspection until after the new work was promulgated.

The new work was given to all the Post Commanders, and most of the Post officers (with the exception of five or six Posts) in the Department, between the 23d and 31st of July.

Since the 1st of November nearly every Post in the Department has been visited by the Assistant Inspectors; and those that were not visited would have been but for the failure to get answers to communications in season to make the inspection during the quarter. The reports show the Department to be in very good condition, indeed, considering the entire change in the work, which has been a great hindrance to the growth of the Order here.

There have been forty Posts organized during the year.

I desire to say, in conclusion, that the present effective condition of the Department is due to the Assistant Inspectors, who have attended to the duties assigned them in their several precincts with an ability and promptness worthy of great credit to themselves and the Order.

Yours, in F., C. and L.,

F. A. OSBORN,

Commander Dept. of Mass.

O. MOULTON,

Department Inspector.

REPORT OF MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

I regret that I am unable to submit a report on the medical condition of the Department for the last year. It is only three months since quarterly reports were received from any of the Post surgeons, and even then the practice was not general. These returns are so meager and cover so short a period of time that it has not been deemed advisable to tabulate them. It is hoped, however, that during the present year they will be full enough to furnish statistics of value in regard to the Grand Army.

In conclusion, I wish to bear cheerful testimony to the faithful performance, by the surgeons of the different Posts, of their duties, which can be appreciated only by those who have borne the burden themselves. And in conclusion again, I would congratulate the Grand Army of the Republic on the high position it has taken among the orders of the country. There is no charitable association in the land which is conducted on so vast a scale and which gives so much relief to the needy families of those who rushed to the defense of the government during the dark days of rebellion.

SAMUEL A. GREEN,
Medical Director.

Boston, Jan. 18, 1870.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

FOR SIX MONTHS, ENDING DEC. 31, 1869.

Receipts.

Balance cash on hand at last report	\$289.27
Cash received of Gen. T. Sherwin, A. A.-G. — Charter fees	130.00
Cash received from sundry Posts — arrearages of Department dues	10.10
Cash received for Department dues for quarter ending June 30, 1869	452.33
Cash received from sales of Books, Blanks, etc., to Posts, to Oct. 1, 1869	1,155.03
Cash received from sales of old Blanks, etc.	3.10
Cash received for Department dues for quarter ending Sept. 30, 1869	639.04
Cash received for Veteran dues for quarter ending Sept. 30, 1869	526.90
Cash received for arrearages of Department dues from Post 49	2.48
Cash received from sales of Books, Blanks, etc., to Posts, to Dec. 31, 1869	379.38
Cash received from sales of Books, Blanks, etc., to sundry persons	4.45
Total	<u><u>\$3,592.08</u></u>

Expenditures.

Cash expended, as per vouchers	\$3,044.06
Cash balance on hand	548.02
	<u><u>\$3,592.08</u></u>

The above expenditures have been for the following-named purposes and amounts, viz. : —

For clerical services at Department Headquarters	\$244.94
For Books, Blanks, etc., for the use of Posts	1,515.40
For Inspection Expenses	150.74
For rent of Headquarters office	150.00
For expenses of Delegates to National Convention at Cincinnati, Ohio	70.00
For portion of expenses of Delegates to National Convention at New York	48.00
For dues to National Headquarters for term ending June 30, 1869	92.33

For dues to National Headquarters for quarter ending Sept. 30, 1869	\$79.51
For Veteran dues to National Headquarters for quarter ending Sept. 30, 1869	526.10
For Incidental Expenses of Department Headquarters, including charities, printing of circulars, general orders, etc., postage, telegrams, expressage, sta- tionery, fuel, furniture, etc., etc., etc.	167.04
Total	<u>\$3,044.06</u>

There is now remaining due from sundry Posts, for books, blanks, etc., \$171.46.

Value of books, blanks, etc., on hand, \$452.31.

No report or dues, either Veteran or Department, have been received from the Quartermaster of Post 98, Pittsfield, for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1869. Post 49, Newburyport, has paid Department dues, but has not forwarded a quartermaster's report for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1869. The Quartermasters of both the above-mentioned Posts have been repeatedly and urgently requested, by communications addressed through the Commanders of their respective Posts, to forward their reports and dues without delay. In consequence of this neglect on the part of the above-named Posts, the consolidated quarterly report of the Assistant Quartermaster-General of this Department, for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1869, was forwarded to the National Headquarters in an incomplete state.

W. S. GREENOUGH,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1869.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Feb. 1, 1869.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 1. }

I. The undersigned, having been duly elected Grand Commander of this Department, hereby assumes command, with Headquarters at the City of Boston.

II. He has appointed as Assistant Adjutant-General, Comrade Thomas Sherwin, Jr., of Boston, who has rendered valuable services in the same capacity during the past year. Communications for these Headquarters will be addressed to him, at Boston.

III. The announcement of the Staff will be made hereafter.

FRANCIS A. OSBORN.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
167 TREMONT STREET, }
BOSTON, Feb. 19, 1869. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 2. }

I. The following Department officers are announced as having been duly elected at the Department meeting in Worcester, Jan. 20, 1869:—

Senior Vice Grand Commander, JOSIAH PICKETT of Worcester.
Junior Vice Grand Commander, HORACE C. LEE of Springfield.
Asst. Inspector-General, ORSON MOULTON of Boston.
Asst. Quartermaster-General, WM. S. GREENOUGH of Boston.
Asst. Surgeon-General, SAMUEL A. GREEN of Boston.
Chaplain, WM. G. SCANDLIN of Grafton.

Council of Administration.

A. B. R. SPRAGUE of Worcester. HENRY R. SIBLEY of Charlestown.
WILLIAM S. COBB of New Bedford. GEORGE H. PEIRSON of Salem.
LUKE LYMAN of Northampton.

Delegates to National Encampment.

A. B. R. SPRAGUE of Worcester, *Delegate-at-Large*.
J. A. TITUS of Worcester. S. E. CHAMBERLAIN of Cambridge.
C. B. KENFIELD of Boston. J. W. DENNY of Boston.
A. M. WILLIAMS of Taunton. WM. F. DRAPER of Milford.

II. Existing orders will be continued in force until further notice. Particular attention is called to Par. 3, General Orders No. 2, of March 18, 1868, as follows: "To insure uniformity in the transaction of official business, all communications from the several Posts to Department Headquarters should be written upon paper of the ordinary letter size, addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General, and signed by the Post Commander or senior officer present. The letter should be folded twice and endorsed upon the first (or upper) fold, as follows:—

Headquarters Post.....

.....1869.

Post Commander (or other officer).

(Here give a brief abstract of the letter's contents.)

The envelope should be addressed to Gen. Thomas Sherwin, Jr., Boston, Mass., with nothing to indicate it as containing an official paper of the Grand Army.

III. Requisitions for books and blanks and reports of Post Quartermasters should be sent to the Assistant Quartermaster-General, at 116 State Street, Boston. He is now prepared to furnish the necessary Post books, transfer and traveling cards, blank applications for membership, etc.

IV. The following extract from General Orders No. 9, from Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, Washington, D.C., under date of April 9, 1868, is republished for the information of Posts and comrades:—

“V. 3. The doctrine in our Order should be ‘Once a comrade, always a comrade.’ A comrade who has been properly mustered in is entitled to the privileges of the Order so long as he continues to be a member in good standing. Article XX. provides for transfers from one Post to another, and for traveling cards; and Article VI. provides for dishonorable discharge by court-martial or otherwise; but members cannot voluntarily withdraw from the Order without the consent of a Post.”

V. Commanders of Posts will at once report to these Headquarters whether the Quartermasters of their respective Posts have complied with Section 1, Article XIX., of the Rules and Regulations.

It is also requested that copies of all General Orders issued by Post Commanders be transmitted to this office as soon as possible after the promulgation thereof.

VI. The following-named comrades are appointed Acting Assistant Inspectors-General, and will report for instructions and assignment to Assistant Inspector-General Orson Moulton:—

W. H. LAWRENCE of E. Boston.	T. L. BARKER of Fitchburg.
C. W. C. RHOADES of Boston Highl'ds.	W. F. DRAPER of Milford.
J. W. HOLMES of Springfield.	G. S. MERRILL of Lawrence.
CHAS. H. CLEVELAND of Worcester.	O. L. WILBUR of New Bedford.
GEORGE H. LONG of Charlestown.	

VII. A room for Department Headquarters has been taken at No. 167 Tremont Street, Boston, which will be open for the visits of comrades daily (Sundays excepted), from 10 A.M. till 2 P.M.

VIII. Notice is given that the Grand Commander has issued a charter to Post 78, at S. Abington, and that the following officers of said Post have been elected and installed: Post Commander, F. P. Harlow; Senior Vice-Commander, C. F. Allen; Junior Vice-Commander, J. R. Whitcomb; Adjutant, H. W. Powers; Quartermaster, L. B. Noyes; Surgeon, B. F. Hastings; Chaplain, J. E. Bates; Sergeant-Major, Isaac Cook; Quartermaster-Sergeant, H. F. Copeland.

IX. Appended will be found a list of the Posts of this Department, with the names of Commanders, location and Encampment title. Any change of Commanders will be promptly reported to this office. A report of the place and hour of meeting of each Post is requested at once.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,
*Grand Commander.*THOS. SHERWIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

POSTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MASS., GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Roster of Officers Elected December, 1868.

No Post.	Commander.	Location.	Title.
1.	Wm. S. Cobb,	New Bedford.	
2.	Francis B. Smith,	Nantucket.	
3.	Alfred M. Williams,	Taunton.	
4.	J. S. Drayton,	Melrose.	
5.	J. G. B. Adams,	Lynn,	Gen. Lander Encampment.
6.	Geo. O. Wilder,	Holliston,	P. T. Wyman "
7.	E. M. Chamberlain,	Boston,	Chas. Russell Lowell "
8.	Lewis Finney,	Middleboro'.	
9.	C. H. Williams,	Hudson,	Reno "
10.	R. E. Blake,	Worcester,	Geo. H. Ward "
11.	Geo. R. Kelso,	Charlestown,	Abraham Lincoln "
12.	Geo. E. Tibbetts,	Wakefield.	
13.	A. B. Holmes,	No. Bridgewater,	Fletcher Webster "
14.	Oscar L. Brown,	Hopkinton,	Chas. Phillips "
15.	C. G. Atwood,	Boston,	John A. Andrew "
16.	H. M. Phillips,	Springfield.	
17.	J. R. Davis,	Orange,	Abraham Lincoln "
18.	A. G. Forbush,	Ashland.	
19.	Thaddeus L. Barker,	Fitchburg,	E. V. Sumner "
20.	A. S. Graton,	Paxton.	
21.	John W. Fairbanks,	Westboro',	Sedgwick "
22.	James H. Barker,	Milford.	
23.	Geo. A. Butler,	East Boston,	Joseph Hooker "
24.	A. J. Hall,	Grafton.	
25.	L. B. Willard,	Uxbridge.	
26.	Joel Seaverns,	Boston Highlands,	Thos. G. Stevenson "
27.	A. B. Clark,	Oxford.	
28.	S. A. Lawrence,	West Boylston,	Geo. D. Wells "
29.	G. F. Frost,	Waltham.	
30.	W. H. Cary,	Cambridgeport.	
31.	Charles H. White,	Ashburnham.	
32.	F. C. Choate,	South Boston,	Washington "
33.	Edwin F. Wyer,	Woburn.	
34.	John R. Lakeman,	Salem,	Phil. H. Sheridan "
35.	C. A. Blanchard,	Chelsea,	Theodore Winthrop "
36.	Edmund Baltwood,	Amherst.	
37.	Henry Bemis,	Spencer,	F. A. Stearns "
38.	Artemas D. Ward,	Brookfield,	Dexter "
39.	Geo. S. Merrill,	Lawrence.	
40.	Francis A. Bicknell,	No. Weymouth,	Lincoln "
41.	Phineas Solomon,	Westfield.	
42.	W. O. Fiske,	Lowell,	B. F. Butler "
43.	H. J. Batchelder,	Marlboro'.	
44.	Luke Lyman,	Northampton.	
45.	F. W. Perkins,	Gloucester.	
46.	Edward T. Marvel,	Fall River,	Richard Borden "
47.	W. Frank Holt,	Haverhill,	Major Howe "
48.	Geo. V. Barrett,	Groton.	
49.	Luther Dame,	Newburyport.	
50.	James R. Browne,	Barre.	
51.	Chas. H. Deyo,	No. Brookfield.	
52.	J. W. Allen,	No. Easton,	H. B. Randall "
53.	Wm. A. Burrage,	Leominster.	
54.	S. C. Chamberlain,	Berlin.	
55.	S. C. Hartwell,	Southbridge.	
56.	Lemuel Pope,	Cambridge.	
57.	Robert L. Sawin,	East Cambridge,	P. Stearns Davis "
58.	James L. Bates,	Weymouth.	
59.	Geo. W. Rockwood,	Sterling.	
60.	R. R. Clarke,	Whitinsville.	
61.	E. P. Morton,	Webster.	
62.	J. Cushing Edmands,	Newton.	
63.	Chas. E. Gerrald,	Natick,	Gen. Sedgwick "
64.	A. S. Davidson,	Clinton.	
65.	E. H. Hammond, S.V.-C.,	Warren.	
66.	Godfrey Rider, Jr.,	Medford,	Sam'l C. Lawrence "
67.	Wm. A. Stone,	Manchester.	
68.	Chas. B. Fox,	Dorchester.	
69.	Amos B. Holden,	Westminster.	
70.	Lewis R. Whittaker,	Franklin.	
71.	D. E. Kingsbury,	Holyoke.	
72.	A. St. John Chabre,	Stoughton.	
73.	E. P. Reed,	Abington,	McPherson "

No. Post.	Commander.	Location.	Title.
74.	Chas. L. Rice,	East Abington.	
75.	W. Symington Brown,	Stoneham.	
76.	Samuel H. Doten,	Plymouth.	
77.	Samuel W. Armington,	Holden.	
78.	F. P. Harlow,	So. Abington.	

N.B. Posts 3, 4, 20, 24, 26, 28, 31 and 36 meet on Monday evening. Posts 1, 6, 7, 11, 14, 17, 18, 19, 23, 29, 33, 34, 39 and 41 Tuesday. Posts 9, 13, 15, 21, 22, 25, 30, 32, 38 and 45 Wednesday. Posts 5, 10, 27, 42, 43, 46, 48 and 51 Thursday. Posts 2, 8, 16, 35, 37, 40 and 44 Friday. Posts 49 and 50 Saturday.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
167 TREMONT STREET, }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

BOSTON, April 1, 1869. }

I. The following named Comrades are announced as Aides to the Grand Commander:—

Comrade A. H. WARD of Post 10.
 “ CHAS. B. FOX of Post 68.
 “ L. W. OSGOOD of Post 7.
 “ EDWARD O. SHEPARD of Post 15.
 “ W. O. FISKE of Post 42.

II. Since the promulgation of General Orders No. 2, Post 79 has been organized at North Adams, with the choice of officers as follows: Commander, Wm. McKay; S. V.-Commander, C. Frank Luther; J. V.-Commander, Geo. L. Rice; Adjutant, Walter B. Mitchell; Quartermaster, Wm. F. Darby; Surgeon, H. I. Millard; Chaplain, Rev. Miles Sanford.

Charters have also been issued for Posts 80 at South Hadley, 81 at Brimfield, and 82 at Marblehead.

III. It is decided that the quarterly reports may be received as soon after the 1st of April as possible and may contain all facts which will be of assistance in completing the record of the Department. Blanks for the purpose will be furnished from this office. The regular quarterly dues, at the rate of five cents for every member borne upon the rolls, should be sent to Assistant Quartermaster-General W. S. Greenough, 116 State Street, Boston. Rituals can now be obtained from the Assistant Quartermaster-General for those Posts which have not already been supplied.

IV. Every Post quartermaster will accompany his first requisition upon the Assistant Quartermaster-General, after the receipt of this order, and hereafter his first requisition after each new election, with the certificate of the Commander of the Post, that the said quartermaster has complied with the requirements of Section I, Article XIX., of the Rules and Regulations.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,

Grand Commander.

THOS. SHERWIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
167 TREMONT STREET, }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 5. }

BOSTON, May 3, 1869. }

The Grand Commander invites the attention of the comrades of this Department to General Orders No. 21, current series, from Head-

quarters Grand Army of the Republic, calling upon the Order throughout the country to unite, for the second time, in paying their tribute of affection and honor to the gallant dead, who gave their lives in defense of our nation.

He knows that no words of his are needed to awaken an interest in the touching ceremony of strewing with flowers the resting places of our departed comrades. The experience of last year has shown with what loving zeal, not only this Order, but the community generally, join in this beautiful observance.

In imitation of the wise example of his predecessor, he does not prescribe any uniform manner of celebrating this occasion, but leaves it to each Post to adopt such ceremony as, in the light of past experience, may seem most suitable.

Inasmuch as the Commander-in-Chief has designated two days, Saturday and Sunday, upon either of which these services may take place, the Grand Commander hereby appoints Saturday, May 29, to be observed by Posts throughout this Department. Although it may be urged that Sunday would be a day upon which many could join in this ceremony more conveniently than upon any other, and that there is nothing incompatible with the sacred character of the day in recalling the memory and honoring the graves of our departed friends, the Grand Commander feels that the inevitable accompaniments of a ceremony conducted on so large a scale, the moving of processions through the streets, the strains of martial music, the spectators crowding the sidewalks, the disturbance of churches and church-goers, and the general effect of a secular holiday, would be quite out of keeping with the usual peaceful Sunday of New England; and that, even if this parade should lead to nothing further, and furnish no precedent for less-easily-defended displays hereafter, it would shock a large portion of the community in which we live, and alienate from us many whose good opinion we cannot afford to lose.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,

Grand Commander.

T. SHERWIN, JR.,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, June 7, 1869.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 6. }

I. The Headquarters of this Department have been removed to No. 129 State Street, to which place all communications should be addressed. The office will be open, as heretofore, from 10 till 2, daily, Sundays excepted.

II. Since the promulgation of General Orders No. 4 the following Posts have been organized:—

Post 80, at South Hadley. Commander, Chas. L. Moody; S. V.-C., Dexter Burnett; J. V.-C., Joseph N. Clark; Adj't, J. A. Lyman; Q.M., F. D. Gleason; Serg't-Maj., Thomas White; Q.M.-Serg't, L. W. Gleason.

Post 81, at Brimfield. Commander, Albert J. Bixby; S. V.-C., E. W. Carder; J. V.-C., J. Barlow; Adj't, B. W. Charles; Q.M., J. W. Leland; Serg't-Maj., L. H. Clark; Q.M.-Serg't, W. W. Earl.

Post 82, at Marblehead. Commander, J. S. Bailey, Jr.; S. V.-C., P. T. Woodfin, Jr.; J. V.-C., F. A. Osgood; Adj't, Knott V. Martin; Q.M., Thos. R. Chapman; Surgeon, A. S. Redloe; Chaplain, James Widdop.

Post 83, at Hanover. Commander, Geo. B. Oldham; S. V.-C., M. V. Bonney; J. V.-C., J. D. Gardner; Adj't, J. G. Knight; Q.M., M. M. Stur-

tevant; Surgeon, C. L. Tower; Chaplain, W. S. Sherman; Serg't-Maj., L. Josselyn; Q.M.-Serg't, L. Stockbridge.

Post 84, at Malden. Commander, N. Newhall; S. V.-C., W. P. Stratton; J. V.-C., B. F. Cook; Adj't, A. M. Copp; Q.M., C. H. Hunter; Surgeon, J. G. Hutchings; Chaplain, J. W. Taft; Serg't-Maj., E. Simonds; Q.M.-Serg't, W. H. Earl.

Post 85, at Ware. Commander, S. B. Bond; S.V.-C., H. M. Coney; J. V.-C., D. Holden; Adj't., G. B. Canterbury; Q.M., J. W. Cummings; Serg't-Maj., G. A. Green; Q.M.-Serg't, Geo. Marsh.

Post 86, at Assabet. Commander, D. G. Hemenway; S. V.-C., John Fuller; J. V.-C., J. H. Percival; Adj't, C. E. McQuillan; Q.M., J. H. Allen; Chaplain, Joseph Adams; Serg't-Maj., Geo. Bocock; Q.M.-Serg't, S. P. Morris.

Post 87, at Braintree. Commander, J. T. Stevens; S. V.-C., J. T. Bestick; J. V.-C., G. D. Willis; Adj't, F. W. Holbrook; Q.M., J. E. Holbrook; Surgeon, R. P. Bestick; Chaplain, L. M. Thayer; Serg't-Maj., M. A. Perkins; Q.M.-Serg't, J. R. Carmichael.

III. It will be observed that the blanks for Traveling Cards have been altered, by an endorsement on the back, specifying the time for which the card is issued. By the advice of the Council of Administration it is ordered that no transfer card be issued for a longer period than one year.

IV. Post Commanders are requested to send to these Headquarters full reports of the proceedings on Commemoration Day, in their respective towns and in other places in the vicinity where the services were participated in by detachments or comrades from their Posts. Written reports, programmes, or newspaper notices, are desired, as serving to complete the history of the day.

V. Notice has been received from Headquarters, Grand Army of the Republic, of the appointment of C. G. Attwood, late Commander of Post 15, Dept. of Mass., as Assistant Inspector-General upon the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, assigned to duty in this Department.

VI. Comrade Andrew Wilson of Post 57 has been appointed Acting Assistant Inspector-General of this Department, vice Comrade Geo. H. Long, resigned.

* * * * *

VIII. Information is wanted of Joseph B. Kingsley, who enlisted in Co. G, 20th Mass. Infantry, in 1861, and was said to have been discharged October, 1862. He was in hospital at Poolsville, Md., at that time, since which he has not been heard from by his family, but is supposed to have entered service in the Veteran Reserve Corps. Any comrade having information of this man subsequent to the date above named is requested to transmit the same through the Headquarters of his Post.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,

Grand Commander.

T. SHERWIN, JR.,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
129 STATE STREET, }
BOSTON, June 21, 1869. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 7. }

I. The regular meeting of the Department will be held at 11 o'clock A.M., on Wednesday, July 21, at 154 Tremont Street, Boston, in the upper hall.

Each Post will be entitled to representation, based upon the number of its members, as established by Article XVII., Section 1, Rules and Regulations of 1868. The credentials of delegates will be made in duplicate and signed by the retiring Post commander and adjutant; one copy to be forwarded to these Headquarters within one week after the election, the other to be presented to the Assistant Adjutant-General on the assembling of the Department.

II. The reports for the second quarter of the current year will be due on the 1st of July. The roster of officers should give the names of those newly elected, and the reports should be signed by the retiring commander, adjutant and quartermaster. The Grand Commander requests that there be no delay in transmitting the reports, as the report required by the Commander-in-Chief, from this Department, cannot be rendered in season without promptness on the part of Post commanders.

It is believed that the Posts organized previous to April 1st are already supplied with blank forms for quarterly reports. They will be furnished, on requisition, to such Posts as are not supplied.

The quarterly dues, at the rate of five cents for every member borne upon the rolls, as fixed by Article VI., Department By-Laws, should be sent to Asst. Q.M.-Gen. W. S. Greenough, 116 State Street.

The following is a portion of General Order No. 3, from Headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, dated June 8, 1869:—

“Posts in arrears for dues at the time of the July meetings of the Departments will not be furnished with the revised Ritual, nor will they be instructed in the new work, until such dues are paid.”

“Any Post in arrears for returns or dues shall be excluded from all representation in Department Encampment until the same are forwarded.”

III. Post 88, at Quincy, was organized on the 10th inst. by Asst. Inspector-General Moulton, with a choice of officers as follows: Commander, W. G. Sheen; S.V.-C., W. H. H. Rideout; J.V.-C., W. H. Follet; Adjt., D. F. French; Q.M., H. Lunt; Sergt.-Maj., J. F. Pratt; Q.M.-Sergt., J. W. Moore. Encampment title, “Paul Revere.”

IV. Commanders who have not already complied with Paragraph 4, General Orders No. 6, requiring reports of the ceremonies on Commemoration Day, are requested to do so at once.

V. It having come to the knowledge of the Grand Commander that in some instances comrades have neglected to procure transfer cards on relinquishing their membership in one Post to join another, it is hereby ordered that comrades so situated at once apply for transfer cards, which shall be shown to the adjutant of the Post in which the comrade has last gained membership, for record.

Post commanders will be held responsible for the execution of this order, and comrades failing to comply will be suspended from the privileges of membership until they have done so.

VI. Notice has been received of the intention to propose to the Department, at the July meeting, an amendment to Article VI. of the By-Laws, increasing the rate of Department dues.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,

Grand Commander.

T. SHERWIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ERRATA.—General Orders No. 6, current series, should read: “Post 82, . . . Q.M., C. K. Brown; Surgeon, T. R. Chapman.” Same order, Paragraph 3, “transfer card” should read “traveling card.”

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
129 STATE STREET, }
BOSTON, July 7, 1869. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

For the purpose of putting into operation the system of grades established by the National Encampment on the 13th day of May last, the Commander directs as follows:—

I. The Inspector and all other officers of the Department Encampment, all Assistant Inspectors, and the Staff officers of the Commander, will assemble at Headquarters, 129 State Street, Boston, on the 15th day of July current, at 12 o'clock M., and will be then and there advanced to the second and third grades and instructed in the Ritual of the three grades.

II. Assistant Inspectors, acting as Special Deputies of the Commander for this purpose, will assemble the officers of Posts in good standing in their respective districts, at some convenient place therein, upon a day between the 22d and 31st of July current, and will at such time and place advance such officers to the second and third grades and instruct them in the Ritual of the three grades.

III. At the first stated meeting of each Post after the above ordered meeting of Post officers, the Post commander will commence to advance to the second and third grades such eligible comrades as may desire it, and will at that and all future meetings adopt and follow the Ritual and Rules and Regulations established by the National Encampment on the 13th day of May last.

IV. Special attention is invited to the resolutions adopted by the said National Encampment, promulgated in General Orders No. 3, from Grand Army Headquarters. Assistant Inspectors will be furnished with lists of any Posts which may be in arrears for returns or dues, with instructions not to communicate to them the Ritual, signs, or passwords, except upon special orders from these Headquarters.

By order of

T. SHERWIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,
Grand Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
167 TREMONT STREET, }
BOSTON, Sept. 13, 1869. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

I. The July meeting of the Department was held in Boston, July 21, Commander Francis A. Osborn presiding. Two hundred and seventy-three delegates were present, representing 80 Posts. Prayer was offered by the Department Chaplain. After the meeting had been organized, on invitation of Commander Nettleton, the Department partook of a collation, provided by Post 15. The reports of the Assistant Adjutant-General, Assistant Quartermaster-General and the Auditing Committee were read, showing the

Membership in Massachusetts to be	9,233
The number of Posts	103
The number of deaths	6
The gain during six months	3,044
The receipts	\$1,895.81
The expenses	1,607.54
Balance on hand	288.28

It was voted that Article VI., Department By-Laws, be amended by striking out 20 and substituting 32 cents per member as the yearly department dues.

It was voted that no substitute shall be admitted to the Department Conventions of this Department, unless said substitute shall have been duly elected and certified to at the same time and in the same manner as the regular delegates.

It was voted that the next meeting of the Department shall be held at New Bedford.

A resolution, providing that the decorating of soldiers' graves should be the care of the Post or Posts established in the town or city where the cemetery is located, was, by vote of the meeting, referred to the Council of Administration, with instructions to report at the next meeting.

A resolution, recommending the change of Decoration Day to a later date, was also referred to the Council of Administration, with instructions to correspond with the other Departments and the National Headquarters, and report at the next meeting.

The question of adopting a badge was also referred to the Council of Administration.

Resolutions of thanks were passed to the officers of the Boston & Albany, Old Colony & Newport and New Bedford & Taunton railroads, for their courtesy in giving return tickets; and to Post 15 for the hospitality extended by that Post to the Convention.

II. Attention of Posts is called to Chapter I., Article III., Paragraph 1, Revised Rules and Regulations, adopted at Cincinnati, Ohio, May 12 and 13, 1869, which provided that "any Posts may prefix the name of a deceased soldier or sailor, who died in the service of our country during the late Rebellion, or of some other person eminent during the war for loyalty and efficiency; provided, that no more than one Post in a Department adopt the same name."

As it appears from records that several Posts in this Department bear the same title or name, the Commander suggests that the Post which earliest adopted a name have the privilege of retaining it, unless that privilege be conceded by a vote of the Post in favor of some other Post, and that the retention or surrender of a title be determined by correspondence between the Posts interested, and that the result thereof be made known to these Headquarters.

* * * * *

IV. Inasmuch as a large number of the comrades of this Department have been unable, from various causes, to present themselves for advancement to the second and third grades, prior to the third day of September current, the day fixed as a limit by the National Convention, it is hereby ordered that all such comrades who apply to take the obligations of these grades prior to October 1st *proximo* shall be deemed and taken to have desired to take these obligations prior to September 1st and to have been by some good and valid reason debarred therefrom, for which they ought not to be deprived of their lawful rights, and that they shall be advanced accordingly.

The following comrades are announced as Assistant Inspectors of the Department, and will be respected accordingly:—

John G. McCarter of Milford.	George A. Fisher of Salem.
J. L. Wilber of New Bedford.	Wm. H. Lawrence of East Boston.
Chas. R. Garlick of Pittsfield.	C. W. C. Rhoades of Boston Highlands.
J. L. Skinner of Amherst.	Andrew Wilson of Cambridge.
Dana K. Fitch of Worcester.	George S. Merrill of Lawrence.
T. L. Barker of Fitchburg.	F. C. Blanchard of No. Bridgewater.
C. H. Cleveland of Worcester.	Charles M. Newton of Brookfield.
J. W. Holmes of Springfield.	Francis B. Smith of Nantucket.
Elliot C. Pierce of Weymouth.	

V. Appended will be found a list of the Posts of this Department, with the names of Post commanders, location and title. Any change of Post commanders will be promptly reported to these Headquarters. A report of the day of week and place of meeting of each Post is requested.

By command of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,

Commander.

THOMAS SHERWIN,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Roster of Post Commanders, July 1, 1869.

Post.	Commander.	Location.	Title.
1.	John H. Mackie,	New Bedford,	Wm. Logan Rodman.
2.	Wm. Summerhays,	Nantucket,	Sherburne.
3.	Harrie A. Cushman,	Taunton,	Wm. H. Bartlett.
4.	D. H. Walker,	Melrose.	
5.	Chas. D. Hollis,	Lynn,	Gen. Lander.
6.	Geo. O. Wilder,	Holliston,	Powell T. Wyman.
7.	C. F. Driscoll,	Boston,	Chas. Russell Lowell.
8.	Chas. A. Howes,	Middleboro'.	
9.	A. S. Trowbridge,	Hudson,	Reno.
10.	Geo. F. Thompson,	Worcester,	Geo. H. Ward.
11.	Thos. H. Haskell,	Charlestown,	Abraham Lincoln.
12.	John M. Cate,	Wakefield.	
13.	Geo. W. Leach,	North Bridgewater,	Fletcher Webster.
14.	A. L. Madden,	Hopkinton,	Lt. Chas. Phillips.
15.	E. P. Nettleton,	Boston,	John A. Andrew.
16.	H. M. Phillips,	Springfield,	E. K. Wilcox.
17.	Rufus Livermore,	Orange,	Abraham Lincoln.
18.	A. G. Forbush,	Ashland.	
19.	T. L. Barker,	Fitchburg,	E. V. Sumner.
20.	A. S. Graton,	Paxton.	
21.	Arthur G. Briscoe,	Westboro',	John Sedgwick.
22.	Wm. Emery,	Milford,	Major E. F. Fletcher.
23.	William A. West,	East Boston,	Joseph Hooker.
24.	G. F. Jourdan,	Grafton,	Gen. A. B. R. Sprague.
25.	A. J. Searles,	Uxbridge,	Chas. Devens.
26.	Joel Seaverns,	Boston Highlands,	Thos. G. Stevenson.
27.	A. B. Clarke,	Oxford.	
28.	Chas. C. Murdock,	West Boylston,	Geo. D. Wells.
29.	G. F. Frost,	Waltham.	
30.	Chas. O. Brigham,	Cambridgeport,	Wm. H. Smart.
31.	Harrison C. Chenev,	Ashburnham,	J. L. Reno.
32.	Francis C. Choate,	South Boston,	Washington.
33.	Albert P. Barrett,	Woburn.	
34.	Chas. H. Chase,	Salem,	Phil. H. Sheridan.
35.	Clifton A. Blanchard,	Chelsea,	Theodore Winthrop.
36.	Edmund Baltwood,	Amherst.	
37.	Edward Townsend,	Spencer,	F. A. Stearns.
38.	Artemas D. Ward,	Brookfield,	Dexter.
39.	James B. Wildes,	Lawrence,	Needham.
40.	F. A. Bicknell,	North Weymouth,	Lincoln.
41.	E. B. Smith,	Westfield.	
42.	James F. Huntington,	Lowell,	B. F. Butler.
43.	J. L. Stone,	Marlboro',	Lincoln.
44.	Joseph B. Parsons,	Northampton,	J. Sedgwick.
45.	Benj. F. Millward,	Gloucester.	
46.	E. T. Marvell,	Fall River	Richard Borden.
47.	Henry T. Fitts,	Haverhill,	Major Howe.
48.	Geo. V. Barrett,	Groton Junction,	Geo. S. Boutwell.
49.	Fred D. Burnham,	Newburyport,	Geo. S. Boutwell.
50.	Pliny H. Babbitt,	Barre,	J. B. Plummer.
51.	Nath'l H. Foster,	North Brookfield.	
52.	Thomas Bean,	North Easton,	H. B. Randall.
53.	F. W. Polley,	Leominster,	Chas. H. Stevens.
54.	Frederick Miller,	Berlin,	John B. Gough.
55.	A. H. Wheeler,	Southbridge.	
56.	J. S. Winkley,	Cambridge,	Chas. Beck.
57.	R. L. Sawin,	East Cambridge,	P. Stearns Davis.
58.	James L. Bates,	Weymouth,	Reynolds.
59.	James A. Pratt,	Sterling.	
60.	R. R. Clark,	Whitinsville,	Jesse L. Reno.

Post.	Commander.	Location.	Title.
61.	Sam'l B. Childs,	Webster.	
62.	A. B. Underwood,	Newton,	Charles Ward.
63.	Geo. E. Franklin,	Natick,	Gen. Sedgwick.
64.	Lucius Field,	Clinton.	
65.	F. H. Moore,	Warren.	
66.	Pearl Martin,	Medford,	Sam'l C. Lawrence.
67.	Edwin P. Stanley,	Manchester.	
68.	Chas. B. Fox,	Dorchester,	Benj. Stone, Jr.
69.	Ethan W. Holden,	Westminster,	Rice.
70.	Lewis R. Whitaker,	Franklin.	
71.	Justin E. Brown,	Holyoke.	
72.	A. St. John Chambré,	Stoughton.	
73.	J. Willard Brown,	Abington.	McPherson.
74.	J. B. Studley,	East Abington.	
75.	E. B. Fairchild,	Stoneham.	
76.	S. H. Doten,	Plymouth.	
77.	Emory Rogers,	Holden.	
78.	J. R. Whitcomb,	South Abington,	David A. Russell.
79.	Wm. McKay,	North Adams.	
80.	Chas. L. Moody,	South Hadley.	
81.	Albert J. Bixby,	Brimfield.	
82.	Knott V. Martin,	Marblehead,	John Goodwin.
83.	Geo. B. Oldham,	Hanover.	
84.	Wm. F. Stratton,	Malden,	John G. Foster.
85.	H. M. Coney,	Ware.	
86.	D. G. Hemenway,	Assabet,	Henry Wilson.
87.	J. T. Stevens,	Braintree.	
88.	Wm. G. Sheen,	Quincy.	
89.	Francis E. Porter,	Beverly.	
90.	Dan'l J. Preston,	Danvers.	
91.	Edwin P. Jewett,	Foxboro'.	
92.	Joshua A. Loomis,	Easthampton.	
93.	Josiah A. Richmond,	Shelburne Falls,	Osro Miller.
94.	Jacob Silloway, Jr.,	Canton.	
95.	Chas. A. Newhall,	Saugus.	
96.	Asa B. Fay,	Northboro'.	
97.	Charles A. Mayers,	Auburn,	John A. Logan.
98.	Jacob L. Green,	Pittsfield.	
99.	Wm. H. Eveleth,	Princeton.	
100.	Thos. F. Ellsworth,	Ipswich.	
101.	N. E. Ladd,	Groveland.	
102.	Geo. A. Monroe,	Billerica.	
103.	Wm. Spittle,	Chicopee.	
104.	Hawkes Fearing,	Hingham,	Edwin Humphrey.
105.	D. A. Partridge,	West Medway.	
106.	Thos. F. Parsons, Jr.,	Rockport.	
107.	Lyman Woodward,	Hubbardston.	
108.	Chauncey O. Noyes,	Georgetown.	

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 129 STATE STREET, }
 BOSTON, Sept. 14, 1869. }

CIRCULAR.

The following communication from National Headquarters is promulgated for the information of Posts. Commanders are requested to return the blanks as promptly as possible to these Headquarters, with the other information called for.

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC. }
 INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE, 411 F ST., }
 WASHINGTON, Sept. 1, 1869. }

CIRCULAR No. 4.

Commander of the Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.

Comrades: In compliance with the recommendation of the Committee appointed by the last National Encampment to examine into the practicability of connecting a plan of co-operative life insurance with

the Grand Army of the Republic, the Acting Inspector-General has been directed by the Commander-in-Chief to transmit to you the annexed Form X, for distribution in all Posts within your Department.

The wishes of the majority of the Council of Administration in regard to the calling of a special meeting of the National Encampment are not yet known to these Headquarters; but judging from communications now in hand there will be a very large majority in favor of such call; and as the meeting of the Council of Administration will be held on the first Wednesday in October (6th), and the blanks forwarded to you will furnish much valuable information for the said Council as well as for these Headquarters, even in case that the National Encampment should not be called you are requested to instruct all the Posts within your Department to return the blanks, signed or unsigned, according to their wishes, on or before the 3d of October, to these Headquarters.

You will supply each Post with at least one blank form; and if such should not be sufficient for the number of applicants, the deficiency may be supplied by blank sheets of paper attached to the form.

You will also instruct Post commanders to state the number of members in good standing who have not signed the list.

The greatest promptness in returning these blanks is desired.

Very respectfully yours, in F., C. and L.,

(Signed)

E. J. W. FAEHTZ,
Acting Inspector-General.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,
Commander.

THOMAS SHERWIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
129 STATE STREET, }
BOSTON, Sept. 25, 1869. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 10. }

I. In promulgating General Order No. 5 and Circular No. 2, from National Headquarters, Grand Army of the Republic, the Department Commander takes occasion to call the attention of commanders and officers of Posts to the necessity of following strictly the instructions therein contained in reference to the rendering of reports and payment of dues. Duplicate blanks are herewith furnished, of Forms A and B and F, and reports and dues will be forwarded, on or before the 10th October, as follows:—

1. Post Commander's Report, Form A (Chapter V., Article II., Section 1, Rules and Regulations), to the Assistant Adjutant-General.

2. Post Quartermaster's Report, Form B (Chapter V., Article II., Section 1, Rules and Regulations), to Asst. Q.M.-Gen. W. S. Greenough, 116 State Street, Boston.

3. Post Surgeon's Report, Form F (Chapter III., Article VI., Section 7, Rules and Regulations), to the Medical Director, Dr. Samuel A. Green, 129 State Street, Boston.

4. Report of Applicants Rejected since the Post has been working under the new Rules and Regulations (Chapter V., Article II., Section 1, Rules and Regulations). The name, rank, regiment or ship, and date of rejection should be given.

5. The quarterly dues, of eight cents for every member of the Post in good standing (Chapter V., Article III., Section 2, Rules and

Regulations, and Article VI., Department By-Laws, amended by Department in Convention to read "32 cents" per annum for every comrade who has been advanced to the "Veteran Grade").

6. The fee of ten cents, fixed by Chapter V., Article III., Section 4, Rules and Regulations.

This amount, as well as the quarterly dues, will, for convenience, be forwarded direct to the Assistant Quartermaster-General at 116 State Street, Boston.

Post Commanders will observe that Circular No. 2, Paragraph 2, calls for the return of Form X on October 10. These rolls will be sent in, whether subscribers shall have signed or not.

They are also requested to report, without delay, whether their quartermasters have given bonds, in compliance with the revised Rules and Regulations; if not, the reason therefor.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,

Commander.

THOMAS SHERWIN.

Assistant Adjutant-General.

N.B. The heading of General Order No. 9 is incorrect. The Headquarters of this Department are still at 129 State Street, Boston.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
129 STATE STREET,
BOSTON, NOV. 10, 1869. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 11. }

I. The following resolution, adopted by the National Encampment in Convention at New York, October 27 and 28, and promulgated in General Orders No. 6, from National Headquarters G.A.R., is hereby published, that it may be brought to the attention of all whose status in the Grand Army is affected by its provisions:—

"Resolved, That in order to perfect the operation of the system of grades adopted at the last annual meeting of the National Encampment,

"1. That the 1st, 2d and 3d paragraphs of the resolutions adopted at the said Encampment, found on pages 31 and 32 of the printed Proceedings, be stricken out, and the following substituted in lieu thereof: That all comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, made such under the old organization prior to the first day of November, 1869, and not in violation of the qualifications prescribed by Article IV., Chapter I., Revised Rules and Regulations, shall be eligible to the third grade of the present organization upon taking the several obligations: *Provided*, they shall be in good standing in their several Posts and Departments and free from all dues at the time of their application; and *provided*, further, that all comrades and Posts of the organization who, having had the opportunity, shall willfully neglect or refuse to make application for membership under the new organization on or before the 31st day of December, 1869, shall be deprived of the privileges accorded by this resolution; and *provided*, also, that all other comrades or Posts not last above described shall make application for membership under the new organization on or before the next regular meeting of the National Encampment.

"2. That the phrase, 'in the form prescribed in the Ritual,' occurring in the fourth line, Paragraph 6, of said resolution, be stricken out."

The adoption of this resolution enables those comrades under the old regulations who have been unable to present themselves at a stated meeting of their Posts for advancement to the new grades, to take

those grades at any time, and with the same privileges which have heretofore been accorded to old members; *provided*, that they shall, on or before the 31st day of December, have filed an application for membership under the new organization with the adjutant of the Post. Post commanders are requested to send a copy of this order, with a blank application for membership, to every comrade who has not yet taken the new obligations; and comrades are urged not to neglect this opportunity of securing their right of admission as old members by simply filling up and returning the blanks furnished them.

II. To enable Post surgeons to make the returns required by the Medical Director, it is directed that Post descriptive books be so amended as to show, in the case of the comrades who have been wounded or lost limbs while in the service, the particulars of such injury.

III. Comrade S. Hovey, Jr., has been appointed Acting Assistant Adjutant-General of this Department.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,

Department Commander.

THOMAS SHERWIN,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 6, 1870.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 12. }

I. The annual meeting of the Department Encampment will be held at Pierian Hall, New Bedford, at 11 o'clock A.M., on Wednesday, the 19th inst. The Encampment will be constituted in accordance with Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, Article II., Chapter III., Rules and Regulations. Posts will be entitled to representation in the ratio of one delegate for every fifty members (that is, those who have taken the obligations of the first or "Recruit" grade), with one additional delegate for a final fraction of more than half that number.

The attention of Post commanders is particularly called to the requirements of the third section of the chapter and article above mentioned, in relation to reports, dues and credentials, a strict compliance with which is requisite for the admission of the delegates to seats in the Encampment.

To avoid any misunderstanding on the subject, the following vote of the July Convention is republished:—

"*Voted*, That no substitute shall be admitted to the Department Conventions of this Department, unless said substitute shall have been duly elected and certified to at the same time and in the same manner as the regular delegates."

II. In addition to the election of Department officers and other regular business, reports will be made by the Council of Administration upon the questions of the restrictions of Posts, on Decoration Day, to the limits of their respective towns or cities; of recommending a change of date for Decoration Day; and of adopting a badge: which were referred to the Council by the last Convention. A proposition forwarded to these Headquarters, from a Post of this Department, for dispensing with certain of the grades prescribed by the Rules and Regulations, will also be laid before the Encampment.

III. The quarterly dues will be at the rate of eight cents for each member borne upon the rolls, in accordance with the vote of the Department at the July meeting. The quarterly and veteran dues will be forwarded, with the reports of Post Quartermasters, to Asst. Q.M.-Gen. Wm. S. Greenough, 116 State Street, Boston.

IV. The reports prescribed by Sections 1 and 4, Article II., Chapter V., and Section 2, Article VI., Chapter III., will be forwarded to these Headquarters on or before the 10th inst. Blanks for Post commanders', quartermasters' and surgeons' reports can be obtained by requisition upon the Assistant Quartermaster-General.

V. Any comrade having knowledge of the place and date of the death of Stephen H. Caverly, Co. A, 1st Mass. Cavalry, is requested to send information of the same to these Headquarters, through the commander of his Post. Caverly was captured by the Rebels May 10, 1864, and last heard from at Richmond, Va., June 15, 1864.

VI. On the nomination of the Inspector of the Department, Comrade Frederick Grant has been appointed Assistant Inspector and will be respected accordingly.

VII. Free return tickets over the Boston & Providence and Taunton & New Bedford Railroads will be furnished by the Assistant Quartermaster-General, during the Convention, to those comrades who go to New Bedford by the above-named routes.

By order of

FRANCIS A. OSBORN,
Commander.

THOMAS SHERWIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.



JAMES L. BATES,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1870.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT LOWELL,
1871.

THE Encampment of 1871, terminating the Administration of Department Commander Bates, was held in Lowell, on the 18th of January, in accordance with General Orders No. 9, Series of 1870. No official record of this Encampment appears to exist, and recourse has been had, as in the case of the Encampment of 1868, to the newspaper files. Following are extracts from the Lowell *Daily Courier*:—

“We judge from the appearance of several hundred good-looking gentlemen congregated in Mechanics’ Hall, that there is a convention of the Department of Massachusetts, of the Grand Army of the Republic, though no reporters are allowed inside. The Convention was called to order at eleven o’clock, and a committee on credentials was appointed, which was occupied in examining the certificates of delegates the remainder of the forenoon. Meantime there was a busy caucusing among the delegates for the several candidates for offices, the scene reminding one of a Worcester convention.

“The lady friends of the members of Post 42 of this city had spread long tables in Jackson Hall, with an abundant collation, to which the members of the Convention were invited after the adjournment for a recess. We shall give the results of the Convention tomorrow.”

“The number of delegates in attendance at the Convention in this city yesterday was 229. The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: Commander, William Cogswell of Salem; Senior Vice-Commander, William Spaulding of Charlestown; Junior Vice-Commander, S. E. Chamberlain of Cambridge; Medical Director,

A. R. Rice of Springfield; Chaplain, Miles Sanford of North Adams; Council of Administration: Henry R. Sibley of Charlestown, William O. Fiske of Lowell, J. P. Drury of Chelsea, J. A. Titus of Worcester, W. S. Cobb of New Bedford.

“Ten delegates and substitutes were chosen to the National Convention which meets at Boston.

“We understand that the collation given by the lady friends of Post 42 at Jackson Hall at one o'clock yesterday was most creditable to them, and was highly appreciated by their guests; but as it was partaken of under a countersign and guard, we are unable to speak of the manner in which the visitors to our city were treated except from hearsay. Several of the delegates whom we met spoke enthusiastically of the affair. The levee given in the evening at French's Hall was open to all who had tickets, and was apparently much enjoyed by those who remained in town over night.

“We don't know how much of the operations of the year are secret, but we should think the wider they are published the better. We find the following facts in the Boston papers: The representation is in the ratio of one delegate for every fifty members, with one additional member for a fraction of more than half that number; each Post, however, whatever its number, having at least one delegate. The number of Posts in the Department at present is 142, an increase of twenty-five during the past year. The number of deaths has been seventy-three. The amount of charity disbursed amounts approximately to the goodly sum of \$40,000.00. Seventeen hundred and twenty-three persons and families have had assistance, of which number 467, or about twenty-five per cent, were members of the Order. The organization is generally in a very thriving condition, and was never better. Over 3,000 members have been admitted during the past year.”

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1870.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 129 STATE STREET, }
 BOSTON, Jan. 22, 1870. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 1. }

I. The undersigned having been duly elected Commander of this Department, hereby assumes command, with Headquarters at Boston.

II. Comrade S. Hovey, Jr., is hereby appointed Assistant Adjutant-General, and, having accepted the office, will be respected and obeyed accordingly. All communications connected with the Adjutant or Quartermaster-General's departments will be addressed to him.

III. The announcement of the Staff will be made hereafter.

JAMES L. BATES,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
 BOSTON, March 1, 1870. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 2. }

I. The following-named Department officers are announced as having been duly elected and appointed for the ensuing year:—

ELECTED.

James L. Bates,	Weymouth,	Commander.
H. M. Phillips,	Springfield,	Senior Vice-Commander.
W. O. Fiske,	Lowell,	Junior " "
Samuel A. Green,	Boston,	Medical Director.
Rev. Horace James,	Lowell,	Chaplain.
Wm. S. Cobb,	New Bedford,	Council of Administration.
Henry R. Sibley,	Charlestown,	" "
Luke Lyman,	Northampton,	" "
J. W. Kimball,	Fitchburg,	" "
J. E. Hollis,	Boston,	" "
Rev. Dr. A. H. Quint,	New Bedford,	Delegate to Nat. Encampment.
A. B. R. Sprague,	Worcester,	" at Large to Nat. Enc.
Chas. B. Fox,	Dorchester,	" to Nat. Encampment.
Geo. S. Merrill,	Lawrence,	" " "
S. E. Chamberlain,	Cambridge,	" " "
C. C. Emery,	Boston Highlands,	" " "
A. B. Underwood,	Newton,	" " "
E. M. Chamberlin,	Boston,	" " "
Henry A. Willis,	Fitchburg,	" " "
Wm. T. Grammar,	Woburn,	" " "
Wilmon W. Blackmar,	Boston,	" " "

APPOINTED.

S. Hovey, Jr.,	Boston,	Assistant Adjutant-General.
Wm. S. Greenough,	East Boston,	Quartermaster-General.
H. B. Peirce,	Abington,	Department Inspector.
E. O. Shepard,	Boston,	Judge Advocate.
E. C. Pierce,	Weymouth,	Aide.
L. B. Hiscock,	Boston Highlands,	"
Francis B. Pratt,	Weymouth,	"
Wm. Spaulding,	Charlestown,	"
S. K. Williams, Jr.,	Cambridge,	Assistant Inspector.
Geo. V. Barrett,	Groton Junction,	" "
Geo. S. Merrill,	Lawrence,	" "
C. T. Bailey,	Weymouth,	" "
H. A. Brown,	Northampton,	" "
J. L. Wilber,	New Bedford,	" "
F. B. Smith,	Nantucket,	" "
A. H. Ward,	Worcester,	" "
F. Grant,	Salem,	" "
Wm. McKay,	North Adams,	" "
E. D. Capron,	Springfield,	" "
Geo. R. Kelso,	Charlestown,	" "
Chas. H. Porter,	Quincy,	" "
E. Cottle,	Randolph,	" "
Geo. E. Goodrich,	Fitchburg,	" "
Paran C. H. Belcher,	Milford,	" "

II. Existing orders will remain in force until further notice.

III. To insure immediate attention, all communications addressed to these Headquarters should be written upon letter sheet, folded in three equal folds, and upon the first or upper fold endorsed as follows:—

Headquarters Post No.....G.A.R.

Name of town.....

Date.....

Name of writer.....

Rank in Post.....

The envelope should be addressed to Col. S. Hovey, Jr., No. 366 Washington Street, Boston. Post Commanders are earnestly requested to inspect carefully all reports before forwarding, ascertaining by a close examination that all the blank spaces are properly filled and that they are correct and complete in every respect. The expense for obtaining corrected reports for the fourth quarter, 1869, has exceeded one hundred dollars. This is unnecessary, and can be avoided in future if Post officers will comply with all the above directions.

IV. Requisitions should be addressed to Maj. Wm. S. Greenough, Asst. Q.M.-Gen., at this office, where all books and blanks may be obtained. By ordering sufficient supplies to last one year, expense will be saved by Posts and much labor by the Assistant Quartermaster-General. It should appear upon requisitions whether the supplies are to be sent by mail or express; if the latter, give the name and address of the Boston office.

V. Assistant Inspectors are hereby instructed to proceed at once with the quarterly inspection. Commanders are hereby directed to have their Post books, retained copies of all reports, etc., etc., in readiness for a thorough inspection. The Assistant Adjutant-General will be glad, at all times, to give information upon any subject not fully understood relating to Reports, Ritual, or Rules and Regulations.

VI. Circular No. 2, Headquarters G.A.R., containing an engraving and description of the new badge adopted by the National Council of Administration, will be forwarded to Post Commanders, who are requested to send to Asst. Q.M.-Gen. Greenough a requisition for the whole number that will be required by their Posts, accompanied by the money. Price, \$1.50 each.

VII. Department Headquarters having been removed from State Street to No. 366 Washington Street, Room 4, the Commander will be pleased to have comrades of this or other Departments call at these Headquarters when in the city.

* * * * *

IX. Appended will be found a list of Posts of this Department, with names of the Commanders, locations, and titles. Any changes will be promptly reported to this office.

By order of

S. HOVEY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JAMES L. BATES,
Department Commander.

ROSTER OF POST COMMANDERS, JAN. 1, 1870.

<i>Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
1	George R. Hurlbut,	New Bedford,	William Logan Rodman.
2	William P. Hiller,	Nantucket,	Sherburne.
3	Harrie A. Cushman,	Taunton,	Wm. H. Bartlett.
4	D. H. Walker,	Melrose,	U. S. Grant.
5	Thomas B. Homan,	Lynn,	Gen. Lander.
6	Charles H. Fuller,	Holliston,	Powell T. Wyman.
7	Robert W. Peterson,	Boston,	Charles Russell Lowell.
8	L. D. Munroe,	Middleboro.	
9	A. S. Trowbridge,	Hudson,	J. L. Reno.
10	A. C. Soley,	Worcester,	Geo. H. Ward.
11	Wm. Spaulding,	Charlestown,	Abraham Lincoln.
12	John M. Cate,	Wakefield,	Warren.
13	George W. Leach,	N. Bridgewater,	Fletcher Webster.
14	A. L. Maddin,	Hopkinton,	C. H. Phillips.
15	Thomas L. Livermore,	Boston,	John A. Andrew.
16	John L. Rice,	Springfield,	E. K. Wilcox.
17	G. G. Martin,	Orange,	Abraham Lincoln.
18	Frank H. Wall,	Ashland,	Prescott.
19	Walter A. Fames,	Fitchburg,	E. V. Sumner.
20	A. S. Gratin,	Paxton,	Munroe.
21	Dexter P. Brigham,	Westboro,	John Sedgwick.
22	Daniel E. Spencer,	Milford,	Maj. E. V. Fletcher.
23	William A. West,	East Boston,	Joseph Hooker.
24	L. S. Clark,	Grafton,	A. B. R. Sprague.
25	Albert A. Sherman,	Uxbridge,	Charles Devens.
26	Charles H. Hovey,	Boston Highlands,	Thos. G. Stevenson.
27	Lewis T. Emerson,	Oxford,	Charles Devens, Jr.
28	L. J. Goodell,	West Boylston,	Geo. D. Wells.
29	G. F. Frost,	Waltham.	
30	S. E. Chamberlain,	Cambridgeport,	Wm. H. Smart.
31	A. Sampson,	Ashburnham,	J. L. Reno.
32	W. H. Cunningham,	South Boston,	Washington.
33	Lewis W. Osgood,	Woburn,	Burbank.
34	C. H. Chase,	Salem,	Phil. H. Sheridan.

<i>Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
35	Chas. A. Currier,	Chelsea,	Theodore Winthrop.
36	James A. Baker,	Amherst,	E. M. Stanton.
37	Edward Townsend,	Spencer,	F. A. Stearns.
38	Artemas D. Ward,	Brookfield,	Dexter.
39	E. A. Fiske,	Lawrence,	Needham.
40	Francis A. Bicknell,	North Weymouth,	Lincoln.
41	Edwin B. Smith,	Westfield,	Camp Lyon.
42	Charles H. Kimball,	Lowell,	B. F. Butler.
43	James S. Stone,	Marlboro,	John A. Rawlins.
44	Joseph B. Parsons,	Northampton,	John Sedgwick.
45	Benj. F. Cook,	Gloucester,	Col. Allen.
46	E. T. Marvell,	Fall River,	Richard Borden.
47	Luther Day,	Haverhill,	Major Howe.
48	G. C. Brock,	Groton Junction,	Geo. S. Boutwell.
49	Joseph L. Johnson,	Newburyport,	A. W. Bartlett.
50	Sidney Sibley,	Barre,	J. B. Plummer.
51	Henry S. Johnson,	North Brookfield.	
52	John A. Lynch,	North Easton,	H. B. Randall.
53	Frank W. Polley,	Leominster,	Chas. H. Stevens.
54	Edward H. Hartshorn,	Berlin,	John B. Gough.
55	Wm. A. H. Grant,	Southbridge,	Malcolm Ammidown.
56	J. Warren Cotton,	Cambridge,	Charles Beck.
57	Henry B. Leighton,	East Cambridge,	P. Stearns Davis.
58	Nelson Hubert,	Weymouth,	Reynolds.
59	James A. Pratt,	Sterling.	
60	A. A. White,	Whitinsville,	Jesse L. Reno.
61	Amos D. Shumway,	Webster,	Nathaniel Lyon.
62	Charles P. Clark,	Newton Centre,	Chas. Ward.
63	Charles E. Gerrold,	Natick,	Gen. Sedgwick.
64	W. J. Coulter,	Clinton,	E. D. Baker.
65	F. H. Moore,	Warren,	Clara Barton.
66	Pearl Martin,	Medford,	Sam'l C. Lawrence.
67	Wm. A. Stone,	Manchester,	Allen.
68	S. F. White,	Boston (Dor. D.),	Benjamin Stone, Jr.
69	Abner E. Drury,	Westminster,	Jos. E. Rice.
70	Richard Eddy,	Franklin,	Phil. Kearney.
71	Justin E. Brown,	Holyoke,	Kilpatrick.
72	A. St. John Chambré,	Stoughton,	A. St. John Chambré.
73	J. Willard Brown,	Abington,	McPherson.
74	James B. Studley,	East Abington,	Hartsuff.
75	E. B. Fairchild,	Stoneham,	J. H. Gould.
76	Isaac B. White,	Plymouth,	Collingwood.
77	P. R. Newell,	Holden,	Theron E. Hall.
78	John R. Whitcomb,	South Abington,	David A. Russell.
79	Wm. McKay,	North Adams,	U. S. Grant.
80	Charles L. Moody,	South Hadley,	Thomas White.
81	Frank S. Gardner,	Brimfield.	
82	Knott V. Martin,	Marblehead,	St. John Goodwin.
83	George B. Oldham,	Hanover,	Joseph E. Wilder.
84	Edward G. Tuteen,	Malden,	Gen. John G. Foster.
85	Herbert M. Coney,	Ware,	J. W. Lawton.
86	D. G. Hemmenway,	Assabet,	Henry Wilson.
87	James T. Bestick,	Braintree,	Gen. Sylvanus Thayer.
88	Charles H. Porter,	Quincy,	Paul Revere.
89	Edward L. Gidding,	Beverly,	John H. Chipman.
90	Dan'l Preston,	Danvers,	Ward.
91	Edwin P. Jewett,	Foxboro,	E. P. Carpenter.
92	Joshua A. Loomis,	Easthampton,	G. C. Strong.

<i>Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
93	J. A. Richmond,	Shelburne Falls,	Orso Miller.
94	John D. Billings,	Canton,	Revere.
95	Charles A. Newhall,	Saugus (Sau.Cen.),	E. W. Hincks.
96	Asa B. Fay,	Northboro,	Northboro.
97	Chas. A. Mayers,	Auburn,	John A. Logan.
98	Jacob L. Green,	Pittsfield,	Phil. Sheridan.
99	Joseph P. Reed,	Princeton,	John D. Mirick.
100	Nathaniel Shatswell,	Ipswich,	Gen. Wm. Cogswell.
101	N. E. Ladd,	Groveland,	L. B. Schwabe.
102	N. D. P. Foster,	Billerica,	J. Cushing Edmands.
103	William Spittle,	Chicopee,	Otis Chapman.
104	Hawkes Fearing,	Hingham,	Edwin Humphrey.
105	D. A. Patridge,	West Medway,	Wilder Dwight.
106	Thos. F. Parsons, Jr.,	Rockport.	
107	Lyman Woodward,	Hubbardston,	Burnside.
108	Chauncey O. Noyes,	Georgetown,	E. Everett Peabody.
109	V. P. Parkhurst,	East Templeton,	John Ericsson.
110	Edmund Cottle,	Randolph,	Horace Niles.
111	C. Thompson,	Duxbury.	
112	William C. Litchfield,	South Scituate,	Gen. Charles Griffin.
113	Wilmon W. Blackmar,	Boston,	Edward W. Kinsley.
114	Alexander Smart,	West Amesbury,	Col. Chas. R. Mudge.
115	A. C. Sparks,	Lee,	Buford.
116	George W. Wilson,	South Gardner,	John G. Foster.
117	H. J. Daniels,	Medfield.	
118	John R. Merritt,	Swampscott,	James L. Bates.
119	John Kirkpatrick,	South Hadley Falls.	
120	George Pierce, Jr.,	Greenfield,	Edward E. Day.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, }
BOSTON, May 19, 1870. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3. }

I. In compliance with General Orders No. 8 from National Headquarters, relating to Memorial Day, it is hereby ordered that Post Commanders take the necessary steps to carry out its requirements.

II. Full reports of the proceedings of each Post, with copies of addresses, orations, etc., will be forwarded to this office for publication in book form.

III. Commanders whose Posts do not take part in the ceremonies of the day will report the fact to these Headquarters, with the reason why.

IV. It is hereby ordered, that upon all occasions of ceremony, Post officers shall appear with side arms. All comrades should wear the National badge of our Order. Commanders will comply, as far as practicable, with the requirements of Article IX., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations.

By order of

JAMES L. BATES,
Commander.

S. HOVEY, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

BOSTON, June 22, 1870. }

I. The regular meeting of the Department will be held at 11 o'clock A.M., on Wednesday, July 20, at the hall of Post No. 11, corner of Main and Henley Streets, Charlestown.

The Encampment will be constituted in accordance with Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3, Chapter III., Rules and Regulations. Posts will be entitled to representation in the ratio of one delegate for every fifty members, with one additional delegate for a final fraction of more than half that number. The credentials of delegates will be made in duplicate, signed by the retiring Post Commander and Adjutant, one copy to be forwarded to these Headquarters within one week after the election, the other to be presented to the Chairman of the Committee on Credentials when called for at the Encampment.

The attention of Post Commanders is particularly called to the requirements of the chapter and article above mentioned, in relation to reports and dues, a strict compliance with which is requisite for the admission of delegates to seats in the Encampment. It is recommended that each delegate, before leaving his Post, satisfy himself that all reports and dues have been forwarded, that he may not be excluded from the Encampment.

II. Notice has been received of the intention to propose an amendment to Article III. of the By-laws, changing the day of the monthly meeting of the Council of Administration; also to Article VI., increasing the Department dues.

Dr. Samuel A. Green, Medical Director of this Department, having resigned, in consequence of his election as Surgeon-General, the vacancy will be filled.

III. Commanders who have not already complied with Paragraph 2, General Orders No. 3, from these Headquarters, requiring reports of the ceremonies on Memorial Day, are requested to do so at once.

IV. A report will be presented by the committee appointed by and from the Council of Administration, to prepare a plan looking to the erection of a monument to the memory of the late John A. Andrew.

V. An expression of opinion will be called for in relation to the propriety of petitioning the Legislature to make Memorial Day a public holiday.

By order of

S. HOVEY, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JAMES L. BATES,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON ST., ROOM 4, }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 5. }

BOSTON, June 25, 1870. }

I. The Department Inspector-General desires a full and complete report of all Posts in the Department, previous to July 10. Assistant Inspectors who cannot do so are requested to send in their resignations immediately, that comrades may be appointed who will attend to it. This is done in consequence of the inexcusable delay on the part of some of the Assistant Inspectors in forwarding their last report.

Posts that are thriving need not be visited again before this report is made; but such Posts should be included in the return by copying from the retained report of last quarter. No other report will be re-

quired until Jan. 1, 1871. It is therefore necessary that the next inspection should be thorough, especial attention to be given to Posts that have not been recently visited.

A full attendance of the Assistant Inspectors is requested at the Convention in Charlestown, Wednesday, July 20, on which occasion a meeting will be called for the purpose of organizing more effectually.

II. Duplicate charters will be issued where the originals have faded.

III. Electroplates (for printing Post paper, notices, etc.) of the official seal of the Order can be obtained at these Headquarters, upon receipt of price (\$1.50).

IV. Post Quartermasters and others sending money to these Headquarters are requested to send post-office orders or drafts on Boston, payable to Col. S. Hovey, Jr., Asst. Adjt.-Gen.

* * * * *

VI. It is hereby ordered that all reports due at the expiration of a term shall be made and signed by the retiring officers.

VII. Post Adjutants will observe the following directions in preparing their quarterly returns: The Roster of Officers should give the names of those newly elected. In the table under heading of "No. of Members in Good Standing at last report," the figures must be taken from the column of "Aggregate Members for this quarter." In the retained report of previous quarter add to the number of recruits so obtained the aggregate number of recruits gained, from which subtract the aggregate number of recruits lost; the remainder is the "Aggregate number of Recruits for this quarter." Proceed in the same way with Soldiers and Veterans.

Under the heading of "Loss," substitute for the word "Death" (if this column is not to be used), "Advancement," so it will read "Loss by Advancement." If a recruit is advanced to the grade of Soldier, he is "Lost" "By Advancement" as a recruit and "Gained" by muster as a soldier; if a soldier is advanced to the grade of Veteran, he is "Lost" "By Advancement" as a soldier and "Gained" "By muster" as a veteran.

The names and descriptions of the new members only should be given in the Muster Roll. The "Number" of the first name should be the next succeeding number to the "Total" number of "Aggregate members for this quarter" in the table. All the blank spaces in the table should be filled, especially the charity columns.

VIII. Post Quartermasters will observe the following directions, under the head of "Receipts": Give the amount of cash on hand at last report (this must be written, as there is no blank space for it); give the number of members from whom dues have been received; also, the number of veterans from whom the "Veteran dues" have been collected; also, the total amount of cash received during the quarter from initiation or any other source.

Under head of "Expenditures," give number of members for which Department dues are to be paid. This number, if correct, will be the same as the "Total" of the "Aggregate Members for this quarter," as shown upon the Adjutant's report; also, give the number of veterans for which dues are to be paid. This number, if correct, will be the same as veterans "Gained" by muster, as given upon the Adjutant's report. Give also the total amount expended for charity.

IX. Post Commanders will at once forward to these Headquarters the roster of the newly-elected officers; also, give the time (day and hour) of their regular Post meetings.

By order of

JAMES L. BATES,
Commander.

S. HOVEY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
BOSTON, Aug. 10, 1870. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 6. }

I. The semi-annual meeting of the Department was held in Charlestown, Commander James L. Bates presiding. One hundred and forty-five delegates were present, representing seventy-seven Posts. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. St. John Chambre (commanding Post 77). After the meeting had been organized, on invitation of Commander Geo. B. Childs, the delegates partook of a collation provided by Post 2.

The Quartermaster's report was read, showing the receipts for six months to have been \$5,461.46
Expenditures 5,057.83

Cash on hand \$403.63

Dr. Joel Seaverns, Post 26, was unanimously elected as Medical Director, vice Dr. Samuel A. Green, resigned.

It was *voted*, That the Council of Administration prepare forms of ceremony to be observed by all Posts for Installations, Burials and upon Memorial Day: to be printed in pamphlet form, and a sum charged sufficient to cover the expense; these forms to be used until the National Encampment issue a complete Ritual, containing the necessary forms for all prescribed ceremonies.

It was *voted*, That the next Department Encampment be held with Post 42 in the city of Lowell.

It was *voted*, That the Commander of this Department be instructed to require the semi-annual reports and dues of Posts to be forwarded not later than the first of each month next succeeding the close of the quarter for which they are made: and on the eighth of such month notice be sent to each Post Commander, and also to one delegate from each Post in arrears at the date of such deficiency; and that unless all reports and dues are immediately received, the delegates from those Posts will be rigorously excluded from the Encampment. Also, that the Assistant Adjutant-General shall, without delay, forward to all Post Commanders an acknowledgment of all reports and dues.

It was *voted*, That, in the opinion of this Encampment, it is for its best interests that Memorial Day be fixed at a date later than May 30, and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to National Headquarters.

It was *voted*, That the revised Ritual, reported by a Committee of this Department, and presented by its delegates to the last National Encampment, be referred back to that Committee, with instructions to correspond with comrades of other Departments in reference to its general adoption and report at the next meeting of this Encampment.

It was *voted*, That the Council of Administration be requested to propose some plan by which the exorbitant prices charged for music on Memorial Day be reduced, and report at the next meeting of this Encampment.

It was *voted*, To amend Article III., Department By-laws, changing the day and hour of the meeting of the Council to the first Wednesday of each month at 2 P.M.

It was not considered necessary to increase the Department dues.

* * * * *

III. In compliance with Paragraph 2, General Orders No. 9, Series 1869, from these Headquarters, it is hereby ordered that Posts in this Department cease using the name of our late President Lincoln as a title, except Post No. 40 of North Weymouth, it having been the first to adopt that name.

All Posts in this Department will cease using the name of General Sheridan as a title, except Post 34, it having been the first to adopt that name.

All Posts in this Department will cease using the name of General Grant as a title, except Post 4, it having been the first to adopt that name.

All Posts in this Department will cease using the name of General Reno as a title, except Post 9, it having been the first to adopt that name.

All Posts in this Department will cease using the name of General Sedgwick as a title, except Post 21, it having been the first to adopt that name.

All Posts in this Department will cease using the name of General Foster as a title, except Post 84, it having been the first to adopt that name.

IV. The newly-revised Rules and Regulations are now ready for issue.

By order of

JAMES L. BATES,

Commander.

S. HOVEY, Jr.,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS }	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
	366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
	BOSTON, Aug. 15, 1870. }
No. 7. }	

I. In accepting the resignation of the Assistant Adjutant-General, the Commander takes pleasure in expressing his entire satisfaction with the energy, signal ability, and faithfulness of Comrade Hovey in the discharge of his official duties at these Headquarters; whose efforts have systematized and materially strengthened the organization throughout this Department, and whose reports have repeatedly elicited letters of commendation from National Headquarters.

II. Comrade Henry B. Peirce of Post 73 is hereby appointed Assistant Adjutant-General of this Department, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

III. Until the appointment of a Department Inspector, all Assistant Inspectors will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General direct.

IV. Office hours: From 10 A.M. to 12 M., and from 2 to 4 P.M.; on Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

JAMES L. BATES,

Commander.

GENERAL ORDERS }	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
	366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
	BOSTON, Sept. 14, 1870. }
No. 8. }	

I. Comrade Charles O. Welch of Post 57 has been appointed Department Inspector of this Department, vice Comrade Peirce, appointed Assistant Adjutant-General, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Assistant Inspectors will report in accordance therewith.

II. The following Assistant Inspectors have been appointed since the promulgation of General Orders No. 2: Comrades Chas. M. Newton of Post 38, vice J. G. Hill; J. W. Hart of Post 58, vice Bailey; J. B. Wildes of Post 39, vice Merrill; F. C. Choate of Post 125, vice Porter;

Byron Porter of Post 16, vice Capron; A. M. Parker of Post 10, F. W. Perkins of Post 45, Geo. B. Oldham of Post 83, John K. Wade of Post 15; and they will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

III. In accordance with the decision of the Judge Advocate-General of the Grand Army of the Republic, all Post courts-martial will hereafter be composed of three officers, the junior member to act as Judge Advocate, conforming to the rules laid down for garrison and regimental courts-martial, as found in Article LXVI. of the Articles of War, Revised Army Regulations.

IV. Post Commanders are reminded that all reports and dues for the present quarter should be forwarded promptly upon the first day of October, and that the Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports should agree in all cases. The "Aggregate Members for this quarter," as shown in the Adjutant's report, is the number for which dues are to be paid.

* * * * *

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JAMES L. BATES,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
BOSTON, Dec. 9, 1870. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
NO. 9. }

I. The annual meeting of the Department Encampment will be held with B. F. Butler Post No. 42, Lowell, Mass., at 11 o'clock A.M., on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 1871.

The following vote of the last Encampment is reproduced, for the information of Posts:—

"It was *voted*, That the Commander of this Department be instructed to require the semi-annual reports and dues of Posts to be forwarded not later than the first of each month next succeeding the close of the quarter for which they are made; and on the 8th of such month notice be sent to each Post Commander, and also to one delegate from each Post in arrears at the date of such deficiency; and that unless all reports and dues are immediately received, the delegates from those Posts will be rigorously excluded from the Encampment. Also, that the Assistant Adjutant-General shall, without delay, forward to all Post Commanders an acknowledgment of the receipt of all reports and dues."

Posts will be entitled to representation in the ratio of one delegate for every fifty members, with one additional member for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to choose at least one member. (See Chapter III., Article II., of the Revised Rules and Regulations.) As none but regularly-elected delegates or alternates will be admitted to seats in the Encampment (Post Commanders being members by virtue of their office), care will be taken to elect none but those that will attend.

II. In addition to the election of Department officers and other regular business, the Council of Administration will report upon a plan for the reduction of the exorbitant prices charged for music on Memorial Day; also, a report of the Committee upon the Revision of the Ritual.

III. An expression of opinion will be called for in relation to the expediency of a Department parade, time and place to be determined by the Encampment; also, as to the propriety of making Memorial Day a legal holiday.

IV. Post Adjutants will remember that the names of officers-elect must appear in their report for this quarter, but that the report must be signed by the retiring Commander and Adjutant; also, that the blanks, "Date of last order," "Amount expended for Charity," "Number of Rituals on hand," etc., etc., must be filled. Reports heretofore have been inexcusably incomplete in this particular.

V. Post Commanders will see to it, personally, that the Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports agree in "Aggregate Membership for this quarter," and "Number of Veterans mustered during quarter," before forwarding them. In this way a great deal of unnecessary labor and expense will be avoided. All Posts indebted to this Department for books, blanks, etc., will be required to settle in full to Jan. 1, 1871.

* * * * *

VIII. An extra train will leave the Boston & Lowell Station, Causeway Street, foot of Friend, at 9.30 A.M.; returning, leave Lowell at 3.30 P.M., or thirty minutes after adjournment of the Encampment.

Delegates will be supplied with tickets from Boston to Lowell and return, at half fare, by applying at the railway station in Boston.

Excursion tickets good only on the extra.

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JAMES L. BATES,
Commander.



WILLIAM COGSWELL,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1871.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT SPRINGFIELD,
1872.

THE Encampment was called to order at 12 M., by Commander COGSWELL, and prayer was offered by Comrade GROSE, of Post 143.

Absent — J.V.C.	. . .	S. E. CHAMBERLAIN.
“	Medical Director,	A. R. RICE.
“	Chaplain . . .	MILES SANFORD.
“	Judge Advocate .	C. F. WALCOTT.

The roll was called, and two hundred and fifty-one members answered to their names, — one hundred and one Posts being represented. Comrades not members were admitted as spectators; after which came the

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER COGSWELL.

Comrades of the Department Encampment:

We have come together once more in annual convention, and are about to transact the important business of this meeting, and to deliberate upon the welfare of the grand Order to which we belong, to which we are devoted, and for the success of which we are bound, by some of the strongest and noblest of human ties, to work.

And now, as I am about to return to you the high and sacred trust which a year ago you confided to my keeping, — and for which mark of esteem and confidence of my former comrades in arms, I shall ever remain most proud and grateful, — it has seemed to me to be one of my duties to lay before you a statement, as briefly as I may, of the present condition of the Department, coupled with such few suggestions as a year's experience at Headquarters would seem to approve of, as proper and opportune, and as possibly aiding you in the discharge of your duties here.

The year now ending has been one of marked interest and progress, throughout all the States, in the Grand Army of the Republic, — beginning with the National Encampment in May last, in Boston, when the one-grade system was adopted, a new ritual and new installation and burial services prepared, and a material reduction in our ordinary expenses was made at National Headquarters.

In many places, where the interest in the Order seemed to be waning, it is now apparent that a new interest has been awakened.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to assure you that our National Headquarters show an untiring devotion to the success, well-being, and best interests of the Grand Army.

Within the Department, our number has increased some four hundred. This number would be larger but for the fact, that under the changed rule and regulations, a large number have been dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues, which before could not be done, except through the tedious process of court-martial, which was not generally availed of; so that the whole number dropped from the rolls this year is not fairly chargeable to this year, when treating of our increase in number, as will readily be seen, when we consider that the number of new members this year amounts to two thousand five hundred and eighty-seven.

There is on hand in our treasury, with all bills paid, something over one thousand dollars; this, too, after a material reduction in our profits from the sale of badges, ribbons, rituals, &c.

Eleven new charters have been granted; five charters have been surrendered; and four charters have been revoked.

We have lost by death, one hundred and eight; by dishonorable discharge, six.

There has been disbursed for charity something like thirty thousand dollars; of which, the sum of \$2,207.34 has been disbursed by one Post alone.

In May, by the generous and prompt action of different Posts, the sum of \$1,666 was contributed to entertain in a proper manner the National Encampment; and by this means, it is believed, our kindly relations with the other Departments of the Grand Army were more fully cemented. A balance of this sum, amounting to \$323.86, after the payment of all bills, was placed in the hands of Assistant Quartermaster-General GREENOUGH for purposes of charity, — of which some seventy dollars has been carefully and judiciously disbursed.

The subject of a fall parade, which was referred to the Council of Administration, was fully considered by the Council. Responses from a large number of Posts, to a circular in regard to a parade, left the Council in much doubt as to the wishes of

comrades in this respect; and, after a partial, but exceedingly successful parade of the Department in September, upon the invitation of the City of Boston, and after a parade by the Essex County Posts, the matter was voted inexpedient. The general good appearance and behavior of these two parades demonstrated that the Posts of this Department, if they would all turn out, would make a grand and imposing display.

During the year, the Department has been divided into new inspection districts, and the Inspector's Department is in vigorous and useful prosecution of its all-important duties, and much good may be expected from our inspection system, as now carried on under the new ritual. The adoption of this ritual and the one-grade system has everywhere worked most beneficially; and let us hope that, in this respect, there will be no further change. Since its publication, every Post but three in this Department has been inspected; and, in most cases, the most favorable reports have been made. More promptly than ever before have dues been paid and reports made.

During the Convention there will be distributed to you by the Assistant Adjutant-General a circular from National Headquarters, issued by the Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, together with blank petitions praying Congress for certain modifications in the Homestead laws in favor of soldiers and sailors. In transmitting these blanks to you, I feel it my duty to state that they came to Headquarters in the wrappers of the Northern Pacific Railroad. They will be before you to sign or not, as you may see fit. It is not for me to judge, perhaps; but I fail to see how this subject-matter is embraced within our purposes of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. I say this in no spirit of insubordination, far from it; but with the success and true welfare of the Order only before my eyes. And this briefly is our condition today. We are by no means perfect in our organization, but we are neither standing still nor going backward, while everywhere our prospects are most encouraging for the future. This fortunate condition of affairs is owing to the devotion of a vast majority of our members to the three cardinal and only principles and purposes of our Order, — Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty; to the faithfulness, industry, and intelligence of your Assistant Adjutant-General and Department Inspector and his assistants; to the regular and industrious labors of the Council of Administration; and to the good and prospering condition in which the Department was left by my predecessor, Comrade BATES.

And I desire here to express my thanks and obligations to my personal staff and to the officers of the Department for the great assistance they have rendered me in the discharge of my duties during the year.

I have but little now in the way of suggestion. Our duties are simple, though important, and upon the discharge of those duties depend our welfare and success; and those duties are but a strict adherence to fraternal and charitable objects and objects of loyalty, and to nothing else. We have nothing to do with public questions of any kind. We have only to keep forever green the memory of comrades dead; to care for dependent comrades and their families living and the families of the slain; to pay the last sad rites over the graves of members gone; to love and inculcate loyalty; and to regard and treat each other as brothers, so long as we shall live. Any departure from this leads to disaster, leads to disruption, leads to our end as an organization.

I have no reason to think that anywhere has there been an attempt to verge from this the straight and true path. A single rumor has reached me, but it was only a rumor, that in one Post applicants had been blackballed on political grounds. I hope this was not the case. If, however, it was true, the member or members doing it should themselves be blackballed by a dishonorable discharge. And I particularly congratulate you upon the fact, that a heated and personal political campaign has so recently passed over our good old Commonwealth, from out of which you came, as an organization, without even the smell of fire upon your garments.

Too much care cannot be taken to exercise charity, one towards another. We should be slow to make charges against each other; but firm in making them, without fear or favor, when it becomes a duty. And by all means, should we keep the different matters of our business to ourselves, until it is proper to make them public.

We should also be careful to discipline members only for acts committed while in their capacity as members of the Order; and in no way, by means of our courts-martial, seek to perform the functions properly belonging to the civil and criminal laws under which we live.

We should put our funds in the safest places; and each Post should adopt the strongest safeguards for the protection of its charity fund. I regret to have to report that there have been too many cases, though the number is very few, where money has been misappropriated; and a well-devised system of checks upon those who have funds in their charge would certainly be advisable.

Let your offices of honor and trust be filled by those only, who, forgetting self, will thoroughly devote themselves to the prosperity of the Order. Let the office seek the comrade, and not the comrade seek the office. Different from all other offices, they should be filled by different means. Every office in the Order is one of honor, of high and sacred trust, and should be

filled by those who love the true purposes of the place, rather than themselves.

And now, in closing, I have but a word to say. I love the Grand Army of the Republic more each day that I live. I believe it has a grand mission before it; that it is engaged in a great and Christian work; that we are all the better for belonging to it; and that we have a right to be proud of it. And again thanking my comrades for their generous support of me in my labors as their Commander, asking their indulgence for the meager efforts I have to give to them in return therefor, and asking God's blessings upon the Grand Army of the Republic, I await the pleasure of this Convention.

One thousand copies were ordered to be printed for distribution among the several Posts, without charge. The reading of the records of the last Encampment was dispensed with.

A memorial from Post 68, relative to a monument for JOHN A. ANDREW, also containing a form for memorial service, presented and laid upon the table.

An intermission of one hour was then taken, and the delegates were invited to the Headquarters of Post 16, where a bountiful collation had been provided.

Reassembled at 3 o'clock P.M.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Boston, Jan. 17, 1872.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment:

In accordance with Chap. III., Art. VI., Sect. 10, of the Revised Rules and Regulations, I have the honor to submit the following Report for the year 1871:—

Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1870	142
Number of members appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1870	10,800
Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1871	144
Number of members appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1871	11,208

Showing a gain of two Posts and four hundred and eight members during the year.

The following charters have been granted during the year : —

Post	20		Blackstone.
"	21		Needham.
"	50		Townsend.
"	81		Watertown.
"	129		Somerset.
"	137		Great Barrington.
"	138		Boston.
"	143		Brookline.
"	144		Dedham.
"	145		Attleboro.
"	146		New Bedford.

The following have surrendered their charters : —

Post	20		Paxton.
"	21		Westboro.
"	50		Barre.
"	55		Southbridge.
"	138		Wareham.

The following charters have been annulled : —

Post	81		Brimfield.
"	84		Malden.
"	129		Hanson.
"	137		Housatonic.

Number of members admitted by muster	2,587
" " " by transfer	253
" " " by reinstatement	898
" " lost by death	108 (to 73 in 1870)
Lost by honorable discharge	136
" transfer	301
Dropped from the rolls	495
Suspended	2,290
Dishonorably discharged	6

The amount disbursed for charity, so far as reported, was \$29,823.50.

Number of comrades aided, 559 ; — 1,635 persons, not members, were also aided.

This report is for one hundred and thirty-six Posts. Seven Posts are in arrears for reports, viz. : — No. 17, Orange ; No. 25, Uxbridge ; No. 31, Ashburnham ; No. 96, Northboro ; No. 114, West Amesbury ; No. 130, Williamstown ; and No. 135, Acton (two quarters). [Since the above report, all, except No. 96 and No. 130, have made returns in full.] And no report has yet been received of the organization of Post 137, at Great Barrington.

The return to the one-grade system has simplified the forms for reports, and they are generally correct when received at Head-

quarters, though some of the Posts yet persist in forwarding them separately. Orders from Department and National Headquarters are forwarded to Post Commanders, and it is feared that some of them do not reach the Posts, as several of the Adjutants report from one to six of last year's orders missing from their files. This could hardly be the fault of Headquarters, as great care is taken to see that copies are mailed to *every* Post, and also from the fact, that in many cases, two orders enclosed in the same envelope (one from Department the other from National Headquarters), the Adjutant reports one *only* as missing.

The general condition of the Posts is so faithfully given in the Inspector's Report, which is to follow, that nothing is necessary from me in this regard, unless it be an expression of my appreciation of his services, which have been valuable to the Department in dividing it into districts, and lending his personal supervision to the whole; in short, I think that the excellent condition of the Posts is largely due to the system of inspection now thoroughly organized. I believe that the number of Posts that could be called *unhealthy* is extremely small. Let every comrade lend his interest and influence to the end that it may be smaller; for our Order is short-lived at the best, and this fact is substantiated by the increased number of deaths last year over the year before.

I have only one other suggestion to offer—the matter of form in Post meetings. It is noticeable that the prosperous Posts are those that conform strictly to the Ritual in opening, closing, and the manner of conducting business. Several of the Posts have adopted the uniform in their meetings; that is, the officers appear with side-arms, sashes, white gloves, and caps. This may seem a small matter, and yet it adds greatly to the general effect.

In closing, I have no words to express my feelings toward the officers of the Department and the comrades of the several Posts for the generous treatment received at their hands. My intercourse with all has been pleasant in the extreme. Our Order exemplifies that Fraternity, which none but a soldier can feel; that Charity, which is shown by its works; and that Loyalty, which would find us a *standing* army should our flag be *again* assailed.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.,

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL,
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, G. A. R.

For the Year Ending Dec. 30, 1871.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand at last Report	\$901.70
Cash received for Arrearages, Department Dues for first, second, and third quarters, 1870	50.00
Cash received for Arrearages, Veteran Dues, for first, sec- ond, and third quarters, 1870	2.90
Cash received for Department Dues, fourth quarter, 1870	874.96
“ “ “ Veteran “ “ “ 1870	71.60
“ “ “ Department “ first “ 1871	886.56
“ “ “ Veteran “ “ “ 1871	53.90
“ “ “ Charter Fees, Posts 20, 21, 50, 129, 138, 143, 144, 145, 146	90.00
Cash received for Stationery, from Com. for Care Disabled Soldiers	10.00
Cash received for Arrears Department Dues, first qr., 1871	4.32
“ “ “ “ Veteran “ “ “ 1871	.40
“ “ “ Department Dues, second quarter, 1871	875.52
“ “ “ Veteran “ “ “ 1871	30.80
“ “ “ Department “ third “ 1871	839.12
“ “ “ Arrears Dep't “ second “ 1871	41.60
“ “ “ “ Veteran Dues, second qr., 1871	3.00
“ “ “ from sale of Property of Post 138	32.45
“ “ “ “ Tables and Chairs	18.50
“ “ “ “ Books, Blanks, &c., to Posts	1,289.83
“ “ “ “ Badges to Posts	3,227.20
Total	<u>\$9,304.36</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Cash expended, as per vouchers	\$8,136.68
Cash on hand, Dec. 30, 1871	1,167.68
Total	<u>\$9,304.36</u>
Amount due from Posts, for Books, Blanks, Badges, &c.	\$176.71
Value of Books, Blanks, Badges, &c., on hand	346.53
	<u>\$523.24</u>
Cash on hand	1,167.68
	<u>\$1,690.92</u>
Indebtedness of Department, Dec. 30, 1871	613.36
Net Assets of Department, Dec. 30, 1871	<u>\$1,077.56</u>

ITEM ACCOUNT OF EXPENDITURES.

For Year Ending Dec. 30, 1871.

Services of Assistant Adjutant-General	\$1,400.00
“ “ Assistant Quartermaster-General	337.50

Inspection expenses	\$272.70
Dues to National Headquarters, for third quarter, 1870 . . .	314.31
“ “ “ “ fourth quarter, 1870 . . .	328.11
Veteran Fees, National Headquarters, for third quarter, 1870 . . .	89.60
“ “ “ “ fourth “ 1870 . . .	71.60
Dues to National Headquarters, for first quarter, 1871 . . .	334.08
“ “ “ “ second “ 1871 . . .	343.92
Veteran Fees, National Headquarters, for first quarter, 1871 . . .	54.30
“ “ “ “ second “ 1871 . . .	33 80
Dues to National Headquarters, for third quarter, 1871 . . .	314 67
Books and Blanks	678.16
Badges	3,010.40
Rent and Incidental Expenses of Department Headquarters, including Printing of General Orders, Postage, Stationery, &c.	553.53
Total	<u>\$8,136.68</u>

I desire to call the attention of the Convention, in a few words, to the subject of a decrease of the dues to National Headquarters. This Department is now paying—in compliance with existing rules and regulations—to National Headquarters *three-eighths* of the whole amount received from Posts for Department dues. The amount paid during the year 1871, as shown by this report, is \$1,635.09 for dues, and \$249.30 for Veteran fees. These figures speak for themselves, and, in my opinion, call for some action on the part of this Convention. As I believe the present administration of the affairs of National Headquarters is such that a large reduction of expenses will be shown during the past year, a consequent decrease in the dues now required from Departments might be made without detriment to the interests of the Order. With this accomplished, the *per capita* dues now required from Posts,—which, as I am credibly informed, are already less in this than in any other Department of the Grand Army,—might be still further reduced.

I would also call the attention of the comrades assembled in this Convention to the large reduction in the expenses of Department Headquarters and in the Inspector's Department made during the year,—the inspection expenses being nearly fifty per cent less in 1871 than in the preceding year.

In closing this, my third annual report of the financial affairs of the Department, I take pleasure in being able to present them in so healthy a condition; and would take this occasion to tender to you, Mr. Commander, to the members of the Staff, to the Council of Administration, and to all comrades with whom I have had official connection and intercourse during the year, my sincere thanks for the many courtesies shown me, and for the constant interest you have shown in the financial prosperity of the Department.

W. S. GREENOUGH,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Boston, January 17th, 1872.

The Council of Administration, having examined the financial accounts of the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department, as provided in Chap. III., Art. VI., Sect. 9, of the Rules and Regulations, find a balance on hand, December 30th, 1871, amounting to eleven hundred and sixty-seven dollars and sixty-eight cents (\$1,167.68); and they take pleasure in commending the admirable system and accuracy displayed throughout the Department accounts.

HENRY R. SIBLEY,	} <i>Council of Administration.</i>
WM. S. COBB,	
WM. O. FISKE,	
JOSEPH A. TITUS,	
WM. P. DRURY,	

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR.

Boston, January 17th, 1872.

GEN'L WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

SIR,—I have the honor to render the following report of the condition and efficiency of this Department, so far as it has come under my charge. During the year, the following appointments as Assistant Inspectors were made:—

WM. WOODS	Boston.
WM. H. CUNNINGHAM	South Boston.
F. C. CHOATE	South Boston.
F. GRANT	Salem.
E. L. NOYES	Newburyport.
H. A. CUSHMAN	Taunton.
JOHN CORTHELL	South Scituate.
A. ST. JOHN CHAMBRE	Stoughton.
P. C. H. BELCHER	Milford.
E. C. WHITNEY	Marlboro.
A. M. PARKER	Worcester.
JAS. F. MEECH	Worcester.
WALTER A. EAMES	Fitchburg.
C. M. NEWTON	Brookfield.
BYRON PORTER	Springfield.
H. A. BROWN	Northampton.
JOHN COURTNEY	South Adams.
J. R. DREW	Plymouth.
F. B. SMITH	Nantucket.
J. A. SMALL	Provincetown.

I wish, in the first place, to congratulate this Department upon the great advantage we have gained by the one-grade system.

The majority of Posts that were last year reported as in a bad condition are now reported as getting along splendidly, and the change is attributed solely to the new work. Many Posts, that found it hard work to induce soldiers to come in under the old system, are now receiving new members in good numbers.

The expense of this Department, as you will see by the Quartermaster's Report, has not been large, when we consider that ours is by far the largest in the United States.

I called attention, in my report last year, to the inexcusable neglect of Post Commanders in not having their Post assembled on the night appointed for inspection, thereby making it necessary for the Inspector to visit twice and sometimes three times. This difficulty, I am happy to say, has been remedied in a great measure; but there is still a chance for improvement in a few of the Posts.

Immediately after receiving the new secret work from National Headquarters, a meeting was held at Department Headquarters of the Assistant Inspectors. Fourteen out of the twenty were present at the meeting. All were instructed in the new work, and also in the form to be used at inspection; and the State was divided into districts, and an inspector placed in charge of each district. (See General Order, No. 7.) Owing to the delay in receiving the new work, my Department did not get fairly to work until October 1st, 1871. I will here say, that I am satisfied that the G.A.R. can adopt no system that will benefit it more effectually than our system of inspection. It brings, as it were, Headquarters in personal contact with, and to a knowledge of, the wants of each Post. I also believe, that such positions should be filled by comrades who have the confidence and respect of the Posts in their district; and I regret to see a disposition, among comrades of distinction and ability, to refuse the small sacrifice of a few evenings' time each month to build up our noble organization.

But few words can be said by me at this time, when we consider that our Department, which consists of about one hundred and forty-four Posts in good standing, and out of all of them, we can find but very few but what are in first-rate condition. The principal trouble, I find, is a similar trouble that exists in other organizations, and that is—a sort of jealousy between members. I suppose it would be hardly possible to get so large a body of soldiers together and not find some grumblers; but I find sometimes in Posts a good deal of feeling existing towards some comrade or comrades, which, when sifted down to

a fine point, amounts to simply child's play. This trouble can be remedied very easy. If a comrade is so situated that he can attend to the various committee meetings, &c., and not have to lose his time, and will accept such appointments, I think that the Post should feel under obligations to him for doing their work, and not say, as I have heard some members say, "such-and-such a man is always on committees." My experience has been, that committee business is hard work; and if you can get comrades that are willing to do it, and do it well, let them do it.

A few words about the first grand object of our organization. I find a decided improvement since last year. Posts are getting to visit one another, and much good feeling between the different Posts is the result.

In this connection, I desire to refer to the series of entertainments recently instituted by several Posts in this Department, most appropriately called "Camp-Fires." In the judgment of the Inspector, these social occasions fill a want long felt in our Department, and serve to acquaint the members of the several Posts more thoroughly with one another. To Post 113 belongs the credit of first organizing these entertainments, which have been adopted by many other Posts, and with a marked result. The interest of the comrades in the Order seems not a little enhanced by them, and I cordially commend them to the attention of the Department.

In regard to the grand object of our organization, — the relief of our suffering comrades and their widows and orphans, — too much cannot be said. I would that it were in my power to explain to this Convention the great amount of good that the Posts in this Department have done the past year. I can see no reason why any comrades or their families should suffer, in this State, if they are worthy to receive relief. Many of the Posts have the Relief fund kept entirely separate from the Post fund, and I would recommend that all Posts do so. Comrades will also find that they will get much valuable information in regard to keeping this fund by visiting different Posts.

In thus hastily reviewing these general outlines, I am happy to congratulate this Department on the steady increase of the Grand Army of the Republic in Massachusetts.

In conclusion, I desire to acknowledge the services of the Assistant Inspectors, and to thank them for the zeal, ability, and fraternal feeling that has characterized their official intercourse with this Department.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

In F., C., and L.,

CHAS. O. WELCH,

Inspector Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.

All of the above were accepted, and copies requested for publication.

A communication relative to the securing of portraits of fallen comrades lately contained in the Schwabe Gallery, to be kept always at Department Headquarters, was introduced, and tabled.

Delegates to National Encampment were instructed to use all means in their power to have Sect. 3, Art. I., Chap. V., altered so as to read, "All property of the Department shall be turned over to the Department Headquarters."

Voted to proceed to an informal ballot for Commander.

Result: — H. R. SIBLEY	89
A. B. UNDERWOOD	76
H. S. BRIGGS	42
WM. COGSWELL	22

Comrade COGSWELL remarked that he had from the first discountenanced the use of his name in connection with a re-election, and that he could not, in good faith, allow its use.

Comrade BRIGGS withdrew his name.

The formal ballot for Commander resulted as follows: —

Whole number of votes	238
Necessary for a choice	120
H. R. SIBLEY had	121
A. B. UNDERWOOD	114
H. S. BRIGGS	3

And Comrade SIBLEY's election was made unanimous.

The ballot for S. V. C. resulted as follows: —

LUKE WYMAN	1
A. B. UNDERWOOD	2
J. W. KIMBALL	71
W. S. B. HOPKINS	113

And Comrade HOPKINS's election was made unanimous.

J. V. C. ballot gave —

J. G. B. ADAMS	6
W. S. COBB	18
G. A. CHURCHILL	174

And Comrade CHURCHILL's election was made unanimous.

The Medical Director, Chaplain, Members of the Council of Administration, Delegates and Alternates to the National Encampment, were all unanimously elected, and their names have already been published.

The Commander, S. V. C., and J. V. C. elect were then presented to the Convention, and each made a few remarks.

A resolution of thanks to Commander COGSWELL and retiring officers was passed by a rising vote, and six cheers for Comrade COGSWELL, who responded with a few well-chosen words.

The thanks of the Convention were extended to Post 16 for their generous collation; also to the Boston & Albany Railroad for free return tickets.

Voted to accept the invitation of Post 26, to hold the next Encampment at Boston Highlands.

The following circular was then read:—

At a regular meeting of Post No. 18, G.A.R., held Dec. 20th, 1871, the committee chosen at a previous meeting to devise the best ways and means whereby needy soldiers, sailors, or marines, who united to suppress the late rebellion, or the widows and orphans of those who have fallen, may receive relief from cities and towns without making application in the usual form as town paupers, reported the following, which was adopted:—

WHEREAS, under the present laws of Massachusetts, the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers, also disabled soldiers, needing town aid, are compelled to make application in the usual form as town paupers; and

WHEREAS, in nearly every city and town in the Commonwealth, among the inducements held out to men to enlist, the promise was freely made, that under no possible circumstance should the soldier or his family be reduced to this degradation; and

WHEREAS, it seems to us to be highly important that the members of the Grand Army of the Republic should unite in a petition to the Legislature to frame such laws as in their judgment will best secure to the above class of persons such aid and in such manner as will comport with their feelings of self-respect;

We, therefore, respectfully request, that you will cause the enclosed petition to be circulated among the members of your Post, and returned to us as soon as possible.

FRANK A. WALL,
BENJ. G. BROWN, } *Committee.*
JAS. H. DADMUN,

ASHLAND, Jan. 8, 1872.

Voted to recommend to the different Posts the necessity of taking action in accordance with the above;—Post Adjutants to be instructed to forward a list of all rejected applicants to Department Headquarters, to be published in General Orders.

The delegates to National Encampment were instructed to use all reasonable means to reduce the dues from Department and National Headquarters.

The Council of Administration was instructed to fix the office hours of Department Headquarters.

Voted to adjourn.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1871.

GENERAL ORDERS } No. 1.	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }	
	366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }	
	BOSTON, Jan. 21, 1871. }	

I. The undersigned having been duly elected Commander of this Department, hereby assumes command, with Headquarters as above.

II. Comrade Henry B. Peirce is hereby appointed Assistant Adjutant-General, and, having accepted the office, will be obeyed and respected accordingly. All communications connected with the Adjutant's or Quartermaster-General's departments will be addressed to him.

III. The following named Comrades have been duly elected officers of this Department for the ensuing year :—

Wm. Cogswell,	Salem,	Commander.
Wm. Spaulding,	Charlestown,	Senior Vice-Commander.
S. E. Chamberlain,	Cambridgeport,	Junior Vice-Commander.
A. R. Rice,	Springfield,	Medical Director.
Miles Sanford,	Pittsfield,	Chaplain.
Henry R. Sibley,	Charlestown,	Council of Administration.
W. O. Fiske,	Lowell,	" "
J. A. Titus,	Worcester,	" "
W. S. Cobb,	New Bedford,	" "
W. P. Drury,	Chelsea,	" "
James L. Bates,	Weymouth,	Delegate at Large to Nat. Enc.
J. H. Barnes,	East Boston,	" to Nat. Encampment.
A. B. Underwood,	Newton,	" " "
Geo. S. Merrill,	Lawrence,	" " "
Geo. H. Peirson,	Salem,	" " "
A. B. R. Sprague,	Worcester,	" " "
G. S. Worcester,	Boston,	" " "
C. B. Fox,	Boston (Dor.),	" " "
J. W. Kimball,	Fitchburg,	" " "
S. Burrill,	Boston Highlands,	" " "
H. M. Phillips,	Springfield,	" " "
H. S. Briggs,	Pittsfield,	" " "

IV. The Assistant Adjutant-General's office will be open daily from 10 to 12, and from 2 to 4, except Saturdays, when it will be closed in the afternoon.

V. The announcement of the Staff will be made hereafter.

Official :

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
 BOSTON, Feb. 13, 1871. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 NO. 2. }

I. The annual meeting of the Department was held at Lowell, Jan. 18, 1871, Commander James L. Bates presiding. Two hundred and twenty-nine Delegates were present, representing 102 Posts.

The Assistant Adjutant-General's report was read, showing:—

Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1869	117
“ “ members, Dec. 31, 1869	8,999
“ “ Posts, Dec. 31, 1870	142
“ “ members, Dec. 31, 1870	11,004
“ admitted by muster during the year, over	3,000
“ gained by suspension	373
“ lost by suspension	1,638
“ gained by transfer	226
“ lost by transfer	339
“ died	73
“ honorably discharged	99
“ of persons and families aided, so far as reported, 1,723	

of which not more than 25 per cent were members of the Order. The report also shows the Department to be in a flourishing condition, although the different reports from Posts are, in too many instances, not made promptly, and in some cases not correctly.

The Assistant Quartermaster-General's report was read, showing amount received during the year \$3,713 80

Amount expended 2,812.10

Cash on hand \$901.70

Amount due from Posts \$228.46

Value of property on hand 489.81 718.27

\$1,619.97

Estimated indebtedness of Department 1,500.00

Balance \$119.97

The reports of Medical Director, Chaplain, and Inspector were read, the latter showing that while a good state of discipline existed in the Department, yet some improvement could be made in the working under the Ritual.

At noon, B. F. Butler Post 42 provided the Convention with a generous collation at Jackson Hall, for which a vote of thanks was passed.

National and Department officers were invited to take seats upon the platform.

The report of the Council that it was inexpedient to submit a plan as to prices to be paid to bands was accepted, and the matter was laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on the Ritual, recommending one grade, was adopted, and the delegates were instructed to urge the same at the next National Encampment.

For election of officers, see General Orders No. 1.

It was voted to hold the next meeting at South Boston, if a July convention should be called, and that the next annual meeting be held at Springfield.

A set of resolutions denouncing a recent attempt in the U.S. Senate to remove the remains of our fallen comrades buried in the National

Cemetery on the Arlington estate, in order that the estate might be restored to its original owners, and applauding those senators who defeated such an attempt, was adopted; and it was voted to forward a copy of the same to National Headquarters.

A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring Commander, Comrade James L. Bates, for the able, efficient, and impartial manner in which he had discharged his duties during the year.

Voted, That the address of the Commander be printed and a copy forwarded to the Posts in the Department.

A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring Department officers.

Resolutions regarding organization and a Department parade were referred to the Council of Administration.

II. The following letter from James L. Bates, Past Commander of this Department, explains itself:—

BOSTON, Feb. 1, 1871.

HENRY B. PEIRCE, *Asst. Adjt.-Gen. Department of Mass., G.A.R.*

Comrade: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 30th ult., asking for manuscript of my address, intended for Department Convention, that the vote of the Convention may be complied with by having the same published.

The address was written for the Convention, and contained recommendations and suggestions upon which action was asked. Inasmuch as no opportunity for its delivery was given by the Convention, the occasion seems to have passed when its presentation to the Department would be proper. It might seem like post-mortem advice to the new administration to publish now that which the parliamentary body of the Department has not stamped with its approval.

If the address had been delivered, and had met the approval of the Convention, I should deem the vote to have it published as a high compliment. I am happy to acknowledge the courtesy of the comrades in ordering the printing of the same, without a hearing, but must decline to furnish the manuscript, for the reasons given.

Reciprocating your sentiments of esteem, I am, Comrade,

Yours truly, in F., C., and L.,

JAMES L. BATES.

III. Post Commanders will forward to these Headquarters, at once, a complete report of the amount of money received from all sources for charitable purposes; also, the amount paid out from all sources to aid soldiers and their families during the year 1870. Posts that have received and paid nothing will report accordingly.

IV. Hereafter the price of badges will be: For single ones, \$1.25 each; ten or more in one order, \$1.15 each. One to four badges can be sent by mail on receipt of price; larger orders can be forwarded by express, C.O.D., or the money may accompany the order.

* * * * *

VI. The following Comrades are announced upon the Staff of the Commander:—

W. S. Greenough,	Boston,	Asst. Q.M.-Gen.
Chas. O. Welch,	Cambridge,	Inspector.
	(P.O., 116 Tremont Street, Boston.)	
C. F. Walcott,	Cambridge,	Judge Advocate.
Luke Lyman,	Northampton,	Aide.
Samuel Dalton,	Salem,	"
Wm. H. Lawrence,	E. Boston,	"
Chas. H. Chase,	Salem,	"
Wm. B. Sears,	Boston Highlands,	"
H. A. Cushman,	Taunton,	Assistant Inspector.

W. H. Cunningham,	South Boston,	Assistant Inspector.
Byron Porter,	Springfield,	" "
H. A. Brown,	Northampton,	" "
Frederick Grant,	Salem,	" "

They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

VII. A list of Posts in this Department, together with the title, name of Commander, and night of meeting, is appended for the convenience of Posts and Comrades.

By order of

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROSTER DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, G.A.R., 1871.

ELECTED.

Wm. Cogswell,	Salem,	Commander.
Wm. Spaulding,	Charlestown,	Senior Vice-Commander.
S. E. Chamberlain,	Cambridgeport,	Junior Vice-Commander.
A. R. Rice,	Springfield,	Medical Director.
Miles Sanford,	Pittsfield,	Chaplain.
Henry R. Sibley,	Charlestown,	Council of Administration.
W. O. Fiske,	Lowell,	" "
J. A. Titus,	Worcester,	" "
W. S. Cobb,	New Bedford,	" "
W. P. Drury,	Chelsea,	" "

APPOINTED.

Henry B. Peirce,	Abington,	Assistant Adjutant-General.
W. S. Greenough,	Boston,	Asst. Q.M.-Gen.
Chas. O. Welch,	Cambridge,	Inspector
	(P.O., 116 Tremont Street, Boston.)	
C. F. Walcott,	Cambridge,	Judge Advocate.
Luke Lyman,	Northampton,	Aide.
Samuel Dalton,	Salem,	"
Wm. H. Lawrence,	East Boston,	"
Chas. H. Chase,	Salem,	"
Wm. B. Sears,	Boston Highlands,	"
H. A. Cushman,	Taunton,	Assistant Inspector.
W. H. Cunningham,	S. Boston,	" "
Byron Porter,	Springfield,	" "
H. A. Brown,	Northampton,	" "
Frederick Grant,	Salem,	" "

POSTS.

	<i>Name of Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>Evening of Meeting.</i>
1	Wm. Logan Rodman,	Frank H. Forbes,	New Bedford,	Wednesday.
2	O. W. Peabody,	S. L. Lewis,	Nantucket,	1st and 3d Sat.
3	W. H. Bartlett,	Abner Coleman,	Taunton,	Thursday.
4	U. S. Grant,	Frank T. Palmer,	Melrose,	Alt. Mondays.
5	Gen. Lauder,	John G. B. Adams,	Lynn,	Thursday.
6	Powell T. Wyman,	A. E. Chamberlain,	Holliston,	Tuesday.
7	Chas. Russell Lowell,	Wm. H. Cundy,	Boston,	Friday.
		(P.O., Old State House)		
8	E. W. Pierce,	James E. Cushman,	Middleboro,	Saturday.
9	Reno,	J. W. Pedrick,	Hudson,	Wednesday.
10	Geo. H. Ward,	E. P. Halsted,	Worcester,	Thursday.
11	Abraham Lincoln,	Geo. H. Long,	Charlestown,	Tuesday.

	<i>Name of Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>Evening of Meeting.</i>
12	Warren,	R. L. Murkland,	Wakefield,	2d and 4th Mon.
13	Fletcher Webster,	Geo. W. Leach,	N. Bridgewater,	Wednesday.
14	Lieut. C. C. Phillips,	C. E. Wheeler,	Hopkinton,	Monday.
15	John A. Andrew,	Geo. S. Worcester,	Boston,	Wednesday.
16	E. K. Wilcox,	S. C. Warrimer,	Springfield,	2d and 4th Fri.
17		Rufus Livermore,	Orange,	Tuesday.
18	Prescott,	G. C. Fisk,	Ashland,	Wednesday.
19	E. V. Sumner,	John W. Kimball,	Fitchburg,	Tuesday.
20	Munroe,	A. S. Graton,	Paxton,	2d Monday.
21				
22	Maj. E. F. Fletcher,	Daniel E. Spencer,	Milford,	Wednesday.
23	Jos. Hooker,	Samuel M. Weale,	E. Boston,	Tuesday.
24	A. B. R. Sprague,	L. S. Clark,	Grafton,	Last Monday.
25		Andrew J. Searle,	Uxbridge,	1st and 3d Tues.
26	Thos. G. Stevenson,	Giles H. Rich,	Boston Highlands,	Monday.
27	Chas. Devens, Jr.,	L. T. Emerson,	Oxford,	Tuesday.
28	Geo. W. Wells,	T. E. Sargent,	Oakdale,	Monday.
29	F. P. H. Rogers,	H. G. Sherman,	Waltham,	1st and 3d Thurs.
30	Wm. H. Smart,	Jos. W. Smith,	Cambridgeport,	Thursday.
31	S. A. Taylor,	A. C. Thompson,	Asbournham,	2d and 4th Mon.
32	Washington,	Chas. A. Cunningham,	S. Boston,	Wednesday.
33	Burbank,	Albert S. Leslie,	Woburn,	Thursday.
		(P.O., Centre)		
34	Phil. H. Sheridan,	James G. Bovey,	Salem,	Tuesday.
35	Theo. Winthrop,	Henry Wilson, Jr.,	Chelsea,	Tuesday.
36	E. M. Stanton,	J. L. Skinner,	Amherst,	1st and 3d Tues.
37	F. A. Stearns,	John W. Bigelow,	Spencer,	1st and 3d Fri.
38	Dexter,	Artemas D. Ward,	Brookfield,	1st and 3d Tues.
39	Needham,	L. N. Duchesney,	Lawrence,	Wednesday.
40	Lincoln,	F. A. Bicknell,	N. Weymouth,	Monday.
41	Lyons,	S. H. Perry,	Westfield,	Alt. Tuesdays.
42	Benj. F. Butler,	Jared P. Maxfield,	Lowell,	Thursday.
43	J. A. Rawlins,	C. F. Morse,	Marlboro,	Tuesday.
44	Wm. L. Baker,	H. M. Converse,	Northampton,	Friday.
45	Col. Allen,	Geo. Elwell, Jr.,	Gloucester,	Thursday.
46	Richard Borden,	E. T. Marvell,	Fall River,	Thursday.
47	Major Howe,	A. M. Tilton,	Haverhill,	Tuesday.
48	Geo. S. Boutwell,	Geo. W. Creasey,	Newburyport,	Friday.
49	A. W. Bartlett,	George V. Barrett,	Groton Junction,	Thursday.
50				
51	Ezra Batcheller,	H. S. Johnson,	N. Brookfield,	Thursday.
52	A. B. Randall,	G. Hubert Bates,	N. Easton,	2d and last Sat.
53	C. H. Stevens,	F. W. Polley,	Leominster,	Thurs. monthly.
54	John B. Gough,	S. E. Fuller,	Berlin,	Friday.
55	Malcolm Ammidown,	O. P. Stone,	Southbridge,	Alt. Thursdays.
56	Chas. Beck,	James A. Munroe,	Cambridge,	Monday.
		(P.O., 20 Dock Square)		
57	P. Stearns Davis,	Geo. H. Howard,	E. Cambridge,	Wednesday.
58	Reynolds,	Chas. W. Hastings,	Weymouth,	Alt. Tuesdays.
59		Geo. W. Rockwood,	Sterling Centre,	1st and 3d Thurs.
60		Rouse R. Clark,	Whitinsville,	2d and 4th Mon.
61	Nathaniel Lyon,	J. H. Marshall,	Webster,	2d and 4th Fri.
62	Charles Ward,	Geo. F. Brackett,	Newton,	2d Tuesday.
63	Gen. Wadsworth,	Royal T. Nash,	Natick,	Tuesday.
64	E. D. Baker,	A. S. Davidson,	Clinton,	2d and 4th Wed.
65	Clara Barton,	F. H. Moore,	Warren,	3d Wednesday.
66	S. C. Lawrence,	John Hutchins,	Medford,	Alt. Mondays.
67	Allen,	H. F. H. Miller,	Manchester,	Wednesday.
68	Benj. Stone, Jr.,	Jos. T. Ward, Jr.,	Dorchester,	1st and 3d Thurs.
		(P.O., Neponset)		
69	Jos. E. Rice,	Edw. S. Kendall,	Westminster,	Alt. Saturdays.
70	Phil. Kearney,	W. M. Coney,	Franklin,	Tuesday.
71	Kilpatrick,	Wm. Shaftoe,	Holyoke,	Tuesday.
72	A. St. John Chabre,	A. St. John Chabre,	Stoughton,	2d and 4th Tues.
73	McPherson,	Henry B. Peirce,	Abington,	Wednesday.
74	Hartsuff,	Lewis Reed,	E. Abington,	Alt. Mondays.
75	J. P. Gould,	Wm. H. Hurd,	Stonham,	Alt. Tuesdays.
76	Collingwood,	Chas. B. Stoddard,	Plymouth,	Wednesday.
77	Theron E. Hall,	John E. Schofield,	Holden,	1st Saturday.
78	David A. Russell,	Isaac W. Giles,	S. Abington,	1st Tuesday.
79	Chas. D. Sanford,	Geo. H. Kearns,	N. Adams,	Friday.
80	Joseph Miller,	Chas. L. Moody,	S. Hadley,	Alt. Saturdays.
81				
82	John Goodwin, Jr.,	Thos. Swasey, Jr.,	Marblehead,	Thursday.
83	Joseph E. Wilder,	Geo. B. Oldham,	S. Hanover,	Last Thursday.
84	J. G. Foster,	Wm. H. Lounsbury,	Malden,	Friday.

<i>Name of Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>Evening of Meeting.</i>
85 J. W. Lawton,	H. M. Coney,	Ware, Hampshire,	2d and 4th Wed.
86 Henry Wilson,	Geo. Boocock,	Assabet,	Alt. Wedn'days.
87 Gen. S. Thayer,	James M. Stevens,	S. Braintree,	Tuesday.
88 Paul Revere,	William G. Sheen,	Quincy,	Alt. Tuesdays.
89 J. H. Chipman,	Wm. R. Driver,	Beverly,	Thursday.
90 Ward,	W. Winslow Eaton,	Danvers,	Monday.
91 E. P. Carpenter,	E. P. Jewett,	Foxboro,	2d and 4th Thurs.
92 G. C. Strong,	C. E. Ware,	E. Hampton,	1st and 3d Fri.
93 Ozro Miller,	H. B. Rowley,	Shelburne Falls,	1st and 3d Tues.
94 Revere,	John D. Billings,	Canton,	Last Thursday.
95 E. W. Hinks,	Chas. H. Mansfield,	Saugus,	2d and 4th Mon.
96	Henry Kinney,	Northborough,	1st Monday.
97 John A. Logan,	L. Cass Lawrence,	Auburn,	1st and 3d Tues.
98 W. W. Rockwell,	Henry S. Briggs,	Pittsfield,	1st and 3d Mon.
99	E. W. Gill,	Princeton,	1st Monday.
100 Gen. Wm. Cogswell,	E. G. Hull,	Ipswich,	Thursday.
101 L. B. Schwabe,	Nathaniel E. Ladd,	Groveland,	Tuesday.
102 J. Cushing Edmands,	Coburn S. Smith,	Billerica,	Alt. Saturdays.
103 Otis Chapman,	A. O. Kinney,	Chicopee,	Thursday.
104 Edwin Humphrey,	Peter N. Sprague,	Hingham,	1st and 3d Thurs.
105 Wilder Dwight,	G. E. Pond,	W. Medway,	Friday.
106 Otis W. Wallace,	Story D. Pool,	Rockport,	Thursday.
	(P.O., Pigeon Cove)		
107 Burnside,	Lyman Woodward,	Hubbardston,	Alt. Tuesdays.
108 E. E. Peabody,	Chauncy O. Noyes,	Georgetown,	2d and last Thurs
109 Ericsson,	J. W. Felt,	E. Templeton,	Friday.
110 Horace Niles,	H. C. Alden,	Randolph,	1st and 3d Fri.
111 Jos. E. Simmons,	J. E. Sherman,	Duxbury,	1st and 3d Sat.
	(P.O., N. Marshfield)		
112 Gen. Chas. Griffin,	Wm. O. Merritt,	S. Scituate,	2d and 4th Mon.
113 E. W. Kinsley,	J. Edw. Hollis,	Boston,	Monday.
	(366 Washington St.)		
114 C. R. Mudge,	R. G. W. Foster,	W. Amesbury,	2d Wednesday.
115		Lee,	
116 D. G. Farragut,	J. W. Clapp,	Gardner,	Wednesday.
117	Geo. M. Fiske,	Medfield,	Last Saturday.
118 Gen. J. L. Bates,	S. F. Douglas,	Swampscott,	Friday.
119 J. L. Mathews,	J. L. Mathews,	S. Hadley Falls,	Alt. Tuesdays.
120 Edwin E. Day,	W. S. B. Hopkins,	Greenfield,	1st and 3d Fri.
121 H. A. Darling,	Fergus A. Easton,	Hyde Park,	Tuesday.
122 E. P. Wallace,	Jas. W. Goodrich,	Amesbury,	Wednesday.
123 Parker,	F. F. Fay,	Athol,	Thursday.
124 J. Dimick,	W. H. Osborne,	E. Bridgewater,	1st Thursday.
125 N. B. Shurtleff,	Wm. W. Doherty,	S. Boston,	2d and 4th Wed.
	(P.O., 258 Broadway)		
126 Geo. E. Sayles,	Jonas A. Champney,	S. Adams,	Wednesday.
127 Theo. L. Bonney,	B. S. Bryant,	N. Hanson,	2d Tuesday.
128 Ryder,	Jas. A. Small,	Provincetown,	Alt. Tuesdays.
129			
130 E. P. Hopkins,	Richard Welch,	Williamstown,	1st and 3d Wed.
131 Geo. H. Thomas,	John D. Cogswell,	Leicester,	1st and 3d Tues.
132	Robert S. Daniels,	Peabody,	Monday.
133		N. Attleboro.	
134 Robert Bell,	Geo. C. Patterson,	Boston,	Thursday.
135 Capt. Isaac Davis,	Lemuel Pope,	Acton,	Alt. Mondays.
	(P.O., S. Acton)		
136 Maj. G. C. Marshall,	Chas. R. Bartlett,	Rutland,	Last Saturday.
137		Gt. Barrington.	
138 Winfield Scott,	John A. Walsh,	Wareham,	Saturday.
	(P. O., West)		
139 Willard C. Kinsley,	Charles F. King,	Somerville,	Wednesday.
140 J. Arthur Johnson,	Frank H. Gleason,	Sturbridge,	Monday.
141 Jesse A. Gove,	Edw. A. Brown,	Fall River,	Friday.
142 D. B. Eames,	Chas. H. Fuller,	S. Framingham,	Wednesday.
143 Chas. L. Chandler,	Geo. P. Richardson,	Brookline.	

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4,
BOSTON, March 20, 1871. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3. }

I. The Council of Administration have voted that it is inexpedient to hold a Department parade in May, and desire to know the feeling of the several Posts in relation to the matter, before further action. Post Commanders will therefore bring this subject before their Posts at the next regular meeting after receiving this order, and forward the result as soon as possible. Information is particularly desired: 1st, as to the expediency of a parade; 2d, as to the time; 3d, as to probable number who would be present from each Post if parade should be ordered.

* * * * *

III. The following-named Comrades have been appointed Assistant Inspectors, in addition to the list published in General Orders No. 2:—

F. B. Smith	of Post No. 2	Edw. L. Noyes	of Post 49
Win. Woods	" " 7	A. St. John Chambré	" 72
A. M. Parker	" " 10	J. B. Studley	" 74
James F. Meech	" " 10	J. R. Drew	" 76
Walter A. Eames	" " 19	John Corthell	" 112
P. C. H. Belcher	" " 22	F. C. Choate	" 125
James A. Small of Post 128			

They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4,
BOSTON, May 15, 1871. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

I. Article XIV., Chapter V., of the Revised Rules and Regulations, establishes the thirtieth day of May, annually, unless the same shall occur on Sunday, as Memorial Day; and in compliance therewith, Post Commanders will at once proceed to make the necessary arrangements for the proper observance of that now sacred day. Gladly we welcome the approach of this occasion, when throughout the country is paid the just tribute of the living to the heroic dead; let us —

“Honor and praise, but mourn them not.”

Posts will be careful to carry out this observance on the day established, to wit.: the 30th day of May.

II. Full reports of the proceedings of each Post, with copies of addresses, orations, etc., will be forwarded to this Office for publication in book form.

III. Commanders whose Posts do not take part in the ceremonies of the day, will report the fact to these Headquarters, with the reason why.

IV. It is hereby ordered that, upon all occasions of ceremony, Post officers shall appear with side arms. All comrades should wear the National badge of our Order. Commanders will comply, as far as practicable, with the requirements of Article IX., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations.

By order of

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
 BOSTON, June 13, 1871. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 5. }

* * * * *

II. The semi-annual reports and dues from Posts, will be due July 1; and all Posts who are in arrears for the same on the 15th of that month will be so reported to the National Encampment. The Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports must be forwarded together, and Post Commanders will see that they agree in "Total number of Members," and "Number of Veterans mustered during quarter"; also, that the Quartermasters forward with their reports the amount due Headquarters for badges, books, blanks, etc.

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
 BOSTON, Aug. 21, 1871. }

CIRCULAR }
 No. 1. }

I. The Commander has received an invitation from the City of Boston, for "such Posts as may desire," to join in the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of the Soldiers Monument, in Boston, on the 18th day of September next; and this invitation is hereby extended to the different Posts of this Department.

Music will be furnished by the City.

It is hoped that such Posts as intend to avail themselves of this opportunity to pay their tribute to the great services of the soldiers of Boston who fell in defense of a common country, will notify these Headquarters without delay.

II. The Rules and Regulations, with amendments appended, are now ready for issue, at \$5.00 per hundred. Every comrade should be furnished with a copy. Posts having a supply of the Rules of 1870 will be furnished with a corresponding number of amendments, gratis, upon application, stating the number required.

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
 BOSTON, Sept. 1, 1871. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 7. }

I. The following-named Comrades are hereby appointed Assistant Inspectors: E. C. Whitney of Post 43, and C. M. Newton of Post 38. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. This Department is hereby divided into Inspection Districts, as follows:—

The First District will embrace Posts 4, 7, 11, 12, 15, 21, 23, 26, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 40, 42, 56, 57, 58, 62, 66, 68, 75, 84, 87, 88, 102, 113, 121,

125, 134, 139, 143 and 144, and will be under the immediate charge of the Department Inspector, assisted by Comrades Wm. Woods, W. H. Cunningham, and F. C. Choate, Assistant Inspectors.

Second District: Posts 5, 34, 82, 89, 90, 95, 100, 118, and 132. F. Grant, Salem, Assistant Inspector.

Third District: Posts 39, 45, 47, 49, 67, 101, 106, 108, 114, and 122. E. L. Noyes, Newburyport, Assistant Inspector.

Fourth District: Posts 1, 3, 8, 46, 133, 141, and 145. H. A. Cnshman, Taunton, Assistant Inspector.

Fifth District: Posts 73, 74, 78, 83, 104, 112, 127, and 129. John Corthell, S. Scituate, Assistant Inspector.

Sixth District: Posts 13, 52, 72, 91, 94, and 110. A. St. John Chambre, Stoughton, Assistant Inspector.

Seventh District: Posts 6, 14, 18, 22, 63, 70, 105, 117, and 142. P. C. H. Belcher, Milford, Assistant Inspector.

Eighth District: Posts 9, 43, 48, 54, 64, 86, and 135. E. C. Whitney, Marlboro', Assistant Inspector.

Ninth District: Posts 10, 20, 24, 25, 27, 28, 55, 60, 61, 77, 97, 99, 107, 131, and 136. A. M. Parker and James F. Meech, Worcester, Assistant Inspectors.

Tenth District: Posts 17, 19, 31, 50, 53, 59, 69, 96, 109, 116, and 123. Walter A. Eames, Fitchburg, Assistant Inspector.

Eleventh District: Posts 37, 38, 51, 65, 81, 85, and 140. C. M. Newton, Brookfield, Assistant Inspector.

Twelfth District: Posts 16, 41, 71, and 103. Byron Porter, Springfield, Assistant Inspector.

Thirteenth District: Posts 36, 44, 80, 92, 93, 119, and 120. H. A. Brown, Northampton, Assistant Inspector.

Fourteenth District: Posts 79, 98, 115, 126, 130, and 137. Assistant Inspector not yet appointed.

Posts 76, 111, and 124 will be under charge of J. R. Drew, Plymouth, Assistant Inspector.

Post 2 will be under charge of F. B. Smith, Nantucket, Assistant Inspector.

Post 128 will be under charge of J. A. Small, Provincetown, Assistant Inspector.

III. With the adoption of the new Ritual, and the forming of Inspection Districts, it is hoped that comrades, and particularly officers of Posts, will make every exertion to perfect themselves in the new work. It is highly important that the working of the Ritual should be uniform and systematic throughout the Department; and to this end, Assistant Inspectors are enjoined to visit whenever necessary the different Posts of their districts, to see that the Ritual is worked out in due form, that the books are properly kept, the Rules and Regulations observed, etc., etc., to consult with the Department Inspector, and to make full and careful reports; while Commanders of Posts are directed to confer freely with the Inspector of their district in all matters requiring their aid and instruction.

IV. Comrade C. O. Welch, Department Inspector, is charged with the execution of Paragraphs 2 and 3 of this order.

By order of

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR }
 No. 2. }
 HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
 BOSTON, Sept. 9, 1871. }

A large number of Posts, having accepted the invitation of the City of Boston to take part in the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of the Soldiers Monument, on the 18th inst., it has been deemed advisable to issue this circular for the information and instruction of all concerned.

The Post will be divided into two divisions, under charge of the Senior and Junior Vice-Commanders respectively, the whole under command of the Department Commander.

Each division will be divided into three sub-divisions, each sub-division to be under command of the Senior Post Commander present.

A band of music will be furnished to each sub-division.

Commanders of Posts will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department, at the corner of Beacon and Arlington Streets, at 12.30 o'clock P.M.

Department Headquarters will be known by the white State colors.

Post will appear in dark clothes (citizens'), with G.A.R. or forage cap; or in U.S. regulation blouse and belt, with same cap; and no other uniform will be worn.

Post will march in the procession according to their numerical order.

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 8. }
 HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
 BOSTON, Dec. 11, 1871. }

I. The annual Encampment of this Department will be held in the hall of E. K. Wilcox Post No. 16, in Massachusetts Life Insurance Company Block, Main Street, Springfield, on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1872, at 12 o'clock M., for the election of Department officers and such other business as may come before it. Delegates should come prepared for an evening session.

Attention is called to the following vote of the July Encampment, 1870:—

"It was *voted*, That the Commander of this Department be instructed to require the semi-annual reports and dues of Posts to be forwarded not later than the first of each month next succeeding the close of the quarter for which they are made; and on the eighth of such month notice be sent to each Post Commander and also to one Delegate from each Post in arrears at the date of such deficiency; and that unless all reports and dues are immediately received, the delegates from those Posts will be rigorously excluded from the Encampment; also that the Assistant Adjutant-General shall, without delay, forward to all Post Commanders an acknowledgment of the receipt of all reports and dues."

Posts will be entitled to representation in the ratio of one delegate for every fifty members, with one additional member for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to choose at least one member (see Chap. III., Art. II., of the Revised Rules and Regulations). As none but regularly-elected

delegates or alternates will be admitted to seats in the Encampment (Post Commanders being members by virtue of their office), care will be taken to elect none but those that will attend.

Delegates and Post officers are elected for one year, at the last regular meeting of the Post, in December.

II. Post Commander S. C. Warriner will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and a sufficient number of Sentinels, for duty during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General, at 11.30 A.M., on the 17th *prox.*, for instructions.

III. Delegates will be furnished with free return tickets over the Boston & Albany Railroad by applying to the Assistant Quartermaster-General, in the Encampment.

IV. Post Adjutants will remember that the names of officers-elect must appear in their report for this quarter, but that the report must be signed by the *retiring* Commander and Adjutant; also, that the blanks, "Date of Last Order," "Amount expended for Charity," "Number of Rituals on hand," "Number remaining Suspended," etc., etc., must be filled. Reports heretofore have been inexcusably incomplete in this particular.

V. Post Commanders will forward the Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports together, and see to it, personally, that they agree in "Number remaining in Good Standing" before forwarding.

All Posts indebted to the Department for books, blanks, etc., will be required to settle in full to Jan. 1, 1872.

VI. The badges of the Grand Army of the Republic may be obtained at these Headquarters, at eighty cents each, extra ribbons at fifteen cents each—cash. Individual members will apply through Post Quartermasters. When ordered to be sent by mail, postage must be sent at the rate of six cents for each badge.

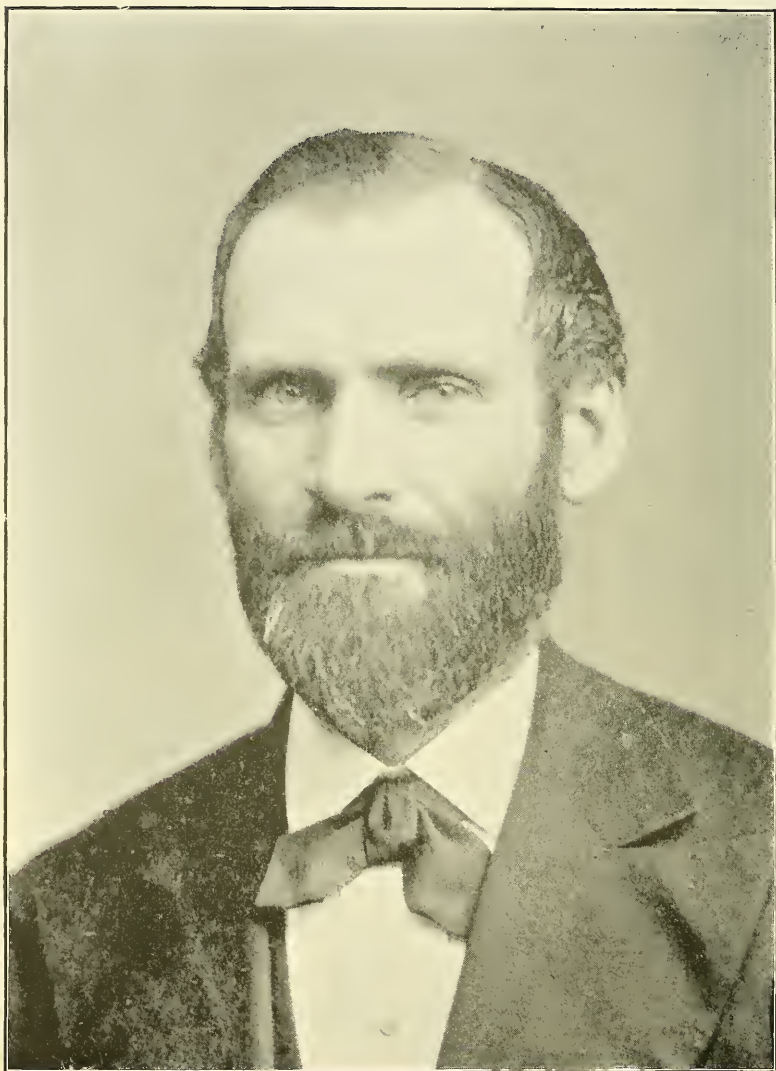
* * * * *

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WM. COGSWELL,
Commander.

* * * * *



HENRY R. SIBLEY,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1872.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT BOSTON HIGHLANDS,
1873.

THE Encampment was called to order at 12 M., by Commander SIBLEY.

Absent — Judge Advocate W. W. BLACKMAR, and Comrades FISKE, PHILLIPS, and ADAMS of the Council of Administration.

The roll was called, and two hundred and thirty-six members answered to their names, ninety-seven Posts being represented.

Voted, To admit comrades, not members, to the gallery.

Prayer by Comrade GEO. S. BALL, Chaplain.

Post 1, of New Bedford, elected at their annual meeting three delegates and three alternates, and was only entitled to two. Comrade EDWIN DEWS, the third on the list, being the only one present, it was voted to admit him.

Voted, To dispense with the reading of the records of the last Encampment.

By unanimous consent the following resolution was introduced by Comrade Fox, of Post 68: —

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Dept. Commander to consider the expediency of instructing the Delegates from this Department to the National Encampment to advocate such alteration of Art. 6, Chap. 5, Rules and Regulations of 1872, as shall abolish the present cumbersome system of trials by court-martial, substituting for them some simple and more direct method, under the more immediate control of the several Posts. This committee to report to this Convention at its present session.

Adopted, and the following committee appointed — Comrade Fox, of Post 68, Senior Vice-Commander HOPKINS, Comrades MACNAMARA, of Post 15, WHITNEY, of Post 43, and DAVOL, of Post 46.

By unanimous consent the following was offered by Comrade SHERWIN, of Post 144 : —

WHEREAS, It is provided by Chap. III., Art. V., Sec. 2, Rules and Regulations, that the officers of the Department shall hold office till their successors are duly installed; and

WHEREAS, No form of installation for Department officers has been prescribed by the National Encampment or this Department:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Commander to consider this subject, and if they deem best, report to this Convention a proper form of installation.

Adopted, and Comrades SHERWIN, of Post 144, MERRILL, of Post 39, and THOMPSON, of Post 10, appointed as Committee.

Comrade S. ARNOLD, of Post 9, presenting the same argument for admission as in case of the comrade from Post 1, it was

Voted, That he be admitted as a member of the Encampment.

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER SIBLEY.

Comrades of the Department Encampment :

We are once more assembled in Department Encampment, to review the work of the past year, and to adopt such measures for the new one as in our judgment will conduce to the growth and prosperity of the Grand Army within this jurisdiction. We enter upon this duty, I trust, with a two-fold feeling of gratitude to the Supreme Commander: first, for having spared our lives through another circuit of the seasons; and next, for the success with which he has crowned our efforts to promote the efficiency and increase the usefulness of the Grand Army of the Republic.

THE CONDITION OF THE ORDER.

The results for the year just closed will be shown in detail by the reports of the Assistant Adjutant-General, the Assistant Quartermaster-General, and the Department Inspector.

Upon the whole, we have a right to congratulate ourselves upon those results, for the occurrence during the latter half of the year of an exciting political campaign had the effect to diminish the attendance of the members at the meetings, and to distract their attention from our work. These effects were but temporary, for the prohibition of political action or discussion, being alike embodied in the Rules and Regulations, and written on the hearts of our comrades, was religiously observed from first to last.

We have now one hundred and forty-nine Posts, being a gain of five during the year. The total membership, in good standing,

as near as can be learned (some reports not having been received), is eleven thousand six hundred and sixteen, or a gain over the number at this date last year, of over four hundred.

The reports show the enormous number of one thousand four hundred and twenty-one comrades suspended for non-payment of dues; and I would suggest that the Posts exert themselves to recover these members, either by a collection or remission of their dues, as circumstances may require.

The amount of funds remaining on hand is smaller than last year. This is to be attributed to the fact that a large amount of disbursements made this year are properly chargeable to the preceding year, to the expenses of delegates to the National Encampment at Cleveland, and to the increased cost of inspection. But it is believed that the expenditures have been in all cases of a judicious character. It is a matter of regret that the amount disbursed for relief cannot be correctly ascertained. It is, however, safe to say that the amount is exceedingly large, proving the charitable intent of our noble organization, and carrying joy and hope to thousands of households. In general, the duties of the inspectors have been well performed, and their reports show an increase of interest and great proficiency in the work. As the Posts are all instructed in and work well under the present Ritual, I believe our delegates to the National Encampment should oppose any change in it the present year. The observance of "Memorial Day" was very general, as the beauty and significance of it has taken a strong hold upon the hearts of the soldiers, and of the generous and patriotic people of this good old Commonwealth.

THE WORK OF THE YEAR.

I have endeavored to make good my promise to the Encampment of last year, to visit the several Posts. By adopting the plan of visiting in each neighborhood the Post most conveniently located, and inviting there the officers of neighboring Posts, I hoped to be able to report here today that, so far as encouragement and instruction in the work was concerned, every Post in the Department had been reached. The political excitement before referred to, and the Boston fire, which destroyed my place of business, and entailed upon me a heavy loss, prevented the completion of that work. However, the number of Posts visited in that way is seventy, while by attendance at fairs, camp-fires, and public meetings, I have addressed the officers and members of twelve others. In this labor the other Department officers, and especially those of the personal staff, have rendered so much aid, that beyond all question great good has been accomplished. The Commander has learned the condition of the Posts; more uniformity in the work has been secured; members of neighboring Posts have been brought together for mutual encouragement, and

the zeal of members has been quickened by the words that have been spoken.

A disastrous fire in the town of Ayer, in the spring, destroyed for the second time the hall occupied by Post 48, with all its furniture. Being imbued with the true fraternal spirit, several of the Posts made up the loss, amounting to nearly a hundred dollars.

In the month of February the Commander-in-Chief, with several officers of his staff, visited Boston. It seemed proper, in view of his official position, his services to the Grand Army, and his eminent services for the country, that there should be, on the part of the Department, some expression of welcome and good-will. Accordingly the Department Headquarters tendered him a complimentary dinner, which was attended by the officers of National and Department Headquarters, and one or two personal friends of the Commander-in-Chief.

A feud having existed for many months in Post 132, culminating in a neglect to obey the orders of the Department Commander, it became necessary, in April, to vindicate the authority of the Department, by suspending the charter of that Post. The suspension continued till June 24th, when the charter was restored, in the belief that harmony would thenceforward prevail. There is good reason to hope that the Post will soon regain its former high rank in the Department.

The new Installation Service, received too late for use last year, has been used the present month in most of the Posts. Under direction of the efficient Chief Mustering Officer, assignments of mustering officers were made for the several districts, and public installations were recommended. From my own observation, and from the reports received at Headquarters, I am convinced that the impressive character of the service, joined to the other means employed, have deepened the interest of the members in the Order, and made its objects better understood by the general public.

THE GOOD OF THE ORDER.

As the result of experience gained in five years' continuous service at Department Headquarters, and an acquaintance with the condition of so many of our Posts, I am prompted to offer a few suggestions as to the needs of our Order, if we would keep it strong and make it grow stronger. We want

First, more care in the selection of officers. In the selection of officers we should have regard to a comrade's fitness *for*, earnestness *in*, and fidelity *to* the work assigned him. Many a Post is languishing, because officers have been chosen to responsible positions for no better reason than that they wanted to be chosen, had worked hard on a committee, or were "good fellows." Many of the Posts are without copies of the Rules and

Regulations at present in force, being like a mariner at sea without chart or compass. As every officer has now taken an obligation to obey and enforce the rules, they should be fully advised as to their duties, and then perform them, or make way for others who will perform them.

Secondly, we want the Post meetings made more interesting; members will lose their interest, stay away from the meetings, and finally have to be dropped, unless the meetings offer some attractions strong enough to keep up a lively interest. That can be done by the introduction of business, remarks for the good of the Order, literary exercises, and above all, by ministering to the craving for social intercourse, of which everybody has more or less, but the soldiers a great deal.

Thirdly, we want more visiting from one Post to another. By an interchange of visits the zealous are encouraged, the indifferent are aroused, and all are made to feel how strong and widely-extended is the brotherhood to which we belong. I recommend county or neighborhood meetings, either of the Posts or by their delegates, to confer as to their condition and needs.

Fourthly, we want the tried soldiers — our influential comrades — to stand by us. Too many of our members, who were once prominent in their Posts (some of them having enjoyed the highest honors), have allowed their interest to slacken. In the course of nature our numbers must steadily diminish — by the love we bear our comrades, living or dead, let us close up the ranks and move forward together, in support of this, the representative organization of the soldiers and sailors. In our fraternal and benevolent work, and especially in the commemorative duties of "Memorial Day," there is much to stir up noble impulses within us — to thrill our hearts with patriotic pride. Let us then be not passive, but active promoters of the good work.

I have received cordial support and many acts of kindness, throughout the year, from the comrades of the Council of Administration, the Department Staff, and the Personal Staff. To them, one and all, I extend my warmest thanks and my kindest wishes for their future prosperity. My relations with the Assistant Adjutant-General have been most intimate and exceedingly pleasant. He is thoroughly devoted to the Grand Army, is an efficient officer and a gentleman — with a good head and a large heart. My thanks are due to the comrades generally, for their support and confidence; to the many who have urged me to be a candidate for re-election, my thanks are due, but for many reasons I must peremptorily decline. May God bless our noble Order, and may He permit each of you to live long to enjoy the blessings of liberty and peace, secured by your labors and sacrifices!

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment:

I have the honor to submit to the Department Encampment the following report for the year 1872:—

Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1871	144
Number of members appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1871	11,208
Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1872	149
Number of members appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1872	11,219
Showing a gain of five Posts and eleven members during the year.	

The following charters have been granted during the year:—

Post 55	Taunton.
“ 84	South Deerfield.
“ 97	Belchertown.
“ 147	Norwood.
“ 148	Winchester.
“ 149	Charlestown.

Post 97, Auburn, has surrendered its charter.

Number of members admitted by muster	1,887
“ “ “ transfer	215
“ “ “ reinstatement	1,204
“ “ “ lost by death 128 (to 108 in 1871).	
Lost by honorable discharge	105
“ transfer	330
Dropped from the rolls	1,619
Suspended	1,654
Dishonorably discharged	4
Number remaining suspended	1,421
Number of rejected applications reported during the year	66

The amount disbursed for relief purposes since March 31, 1872, so far as reported, is \$23,790.29.

Number of comrades and their families aided, 457; number of persons and families, not members, aided, 996.

This report is for one hundred and thirty-seven Posts. Twelve Posts are in arrears for reports; viz., No. 21, Needham; No. 31, Ashburnham (two quarters); No. 36, Amherst (two quarters); No. 88, Quincy; No. 92, Easthampton; No. 99, Princeton; No. 100, Ipswich; No. 115, Lee; No. 119, South Hadley Falls; No. 128, Provincetown (two quarters); No. 132, Peabody (three quarters), and No. 137, Great Barrington.

The reports from Post 6, Holliston, for the third quarter, have not been received. The last reports received from the above Posts would give 468 members in addition to number in report for fourth quarter, which, after deducting arrearages of the fourth

quarter, 1871, would show an actual gain of two hundred and eighty-three members during the year, and when we consider the amount of pruning which has been done by most of the Posts, dropping those who have an antipathy against *dues*, and who were damaging the organization in *other* ways than financially, our condition at this time is a subject for congratulation. In the opinion of the people, we hold a much higher place than ever before, for finding that we, as an organization, do not live for ourselves alone, but for the widowed and orphaned, and for *all* disabled soldiers who are deserving, they extend a ready hand to help us in our endeavors, and we find no difficulty in keeping an ample relief fund. Great care should be exercised in selecting committees for its disbursement, and those who are appointed should weigh carefully the demands which are constantly being made, to the end that only those who are deserving shall reap the benefit. Say, no! to travelling soldiers as a rule, for the average pedestrian soldier is a humbug and an *impostor*, and he will gratify his love of the beautiful in nature so long as he finds Posts ready to give him a lift from place to place; so I would suggest that Posts confine their relief work to those residing in their own vicinity, except in extreme cases. Instead of any further report, I propose to use the little time left me in a plain talk with Post officers; and to begin, no comrade should accept any office in his Post, without first knowing that he can attend to its duties, and having accepted, he should take the same interest in all that pertains to the office that he would in his own business. The Post Commander should be familiar with the Rules and Regulations, and know what is required of him at the hands of the Department as well as of his Post. I regret to say that many are sadly deficient in this regard. It has been repeatedly set forth in Orders and Reports, beside being laid down in the Rules and Regulations, that the Commander shall forward *all* reports to Department Headquarters, and see that they agree before forwarding, but still they come separately, and oftentimes without the endorsement of the Commander, differing essentially. Promptness would be a redeeming trait, but they lack this. General Orders, Nos. 7 and 9, C.S., reminded Post Commanders that all reports must be at Department Headquarters before the 10th inst., together with a list of delegates and alternates, and the reports of twenty-seven Posts were received on the 11th, not to mention several that have been received since. Only a *few* sent lists of delegates, and when written to regarding this shortcoming on their part, responded at once and said that they "*did n't know the list was wanted.*" They do not read the *Orders*, or if they do, the contents are not remembered or complied with; and here it should be stated that Orders from Department and National Headquarters are frequently reported missing from

Post files, owing to the neglect on the part of the Commander in not turning them over to the Adjutant, or carelessness on the part of the latter in not preserving them. A good Adjutant and Quartermaster are necessary, and should be selected with a view to their fitness for the position, without regard to personal preferences; the best comrade in the Department might send a report to Headquarters that *should* be accompanied by an interpreter; in fact, I think that there must be some of that kind in our Posts, and wish that they would either study up their duty, or resign in favor of some comrade who is better capable, though oftentimes it seems as though the condition of the reports was due, solely, to carelessness, the "Totals" and "Aggregates" are so thoroughly ignored. These errors and omissions do not often occur in the reports of the larger Posts, but in the small ones, where but little time would be required to make them up properly, and if the work is not worth doing *well*, it is not worth doing at all. If every Adjutant, who has been in the habit of half-making a report, and every one who intends so to do in the future, will consider the above as said to *him*, I shall not have said it in vain. In closing I would not forget to bear testimony that many of the Posts forward reports that are models of neatness, correctness, and completeness.

These questions may seem of minor importance, but if we would maintain our high position as a Department in the Order, it must be done by looking after these little things, and there did not seem a better time to call your attention to them than after the address of the Commander, whose intimate personal knowledge of all the workings of the Department has enabled him to exhaust the greater questions, and leave me with little to do except to indulge in a little fault-finding, which I hope the comrades for whom it is intended will accept with a good grace, and heed, if it is not unreasonable. Finally, comrades, let us all stand shoulder to shoulder, and do everything in our power to strengthen the Grand Army, and its hold upon the people. It is but for a little time; year by year our death rate increases, and soon the last comrade will have gone to his reward; long after that may the nation remember with pride that such an organization existed, and with love that it never failed in carrying out the great principles which were its foundation.

Yours in F., C., and L.,

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

BOSTON, Jan. 15, 1873.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment :

I have the honor to submit the following Report for the year 1872, in compliance with the Rules and Regulations of our Order :—

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand at last Report	\$1,167.68
Cash received for Arrearages, Department Dues, third and fourth quarters, 1870	1.60
Cash received for Arrearages, Department Dues, first, second, and third quarters, 1871	100.64
Cash received for Department Dues, fourth quarter, 1871	895.68
“ “ “ “ first “ 1872	887.68
“ “ “ “ second “ 1872	917.44
“ “ Arrearages, Department Dues, first and second quarters, 1872	59.04
“ “ Department Dues, third quarter, 1872	859.12
“ “ Books, Blanks, &c., sold to Posts	928.16
“ “ Badges sold to Posts	2,164.00
“ “ Charter Fees, Posts 55, 81, 84, 97, 147, 148, and 149	70.00
Total	<u>\$8,051.04</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Cash expended, as per vouchers	\$7,948.88
Cash on hand, Dec. 31st, 1872	102.16
Total	<u>\$8,051.04</u>
Amount due from Posts, for Books, Blanks, Badges, &c., Dec. 31st, 1872	\$219.57
Value of Books, Blanks, Badges, &c., on hand, Dec. 31st, '72	304.40
	<u>\$523.97</u>
Cash on hand	102.16
	<u>\$626.13</u>
Total known indebtedness of Department, Dec. 31st, 1872	387.45
	<u>\$238.68</u>

It will be seen from the foregoing statement that, while the financial condition of this Department is sound, the balance in the Treasury is small, as compared with former years. This may be explained by the following facts. Quite a large number of bills contracted during the year 1871 were carried over to be paid out of the past year's receipts ; there have also been extraordinary items of expense, the recurrence of which may not often be expected,—such as the travelling expenses of delegates to the last National Encampment at Cleveland. The whole matter, however, is explained in the following

ITEM ACCOUNT OF EXPENDITURES.

FOR YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1872.

Travelling expenses of Delegates to National Convention . .	\$397.75
Inspection expenses	801.44
Salary of Assistant Adjutant-General ('72 and 1 month of '71)	1,300.00
“ “ Quartermaster-Gen'l (“ 1 “ “)	325.00
Travelling expenses of Department Commander and Staff, on	
Official Visits to Posts	111.07
Expense of entertainment to Gen. Burnside and Staff . . .	120.00
Dues to National Headquarters	1,395.57
Books, Blanks, &c.	676.90
Badges	2,025.00
Printing Proceedings of last Department Convention . . .	101.50
Rent and Incidental Expenses of Department Headquarters,	
including Printing of General Orders, Postage, Stationery,	
&c., &c.	694.65
Total	<u>\$7,948.88</u>

I desire to call particular attention to but one item in the above account, that of \$1,395.57 dues to National Headquarters for the year 1872, and I would respectfully suggest whether in view of the large proportionate payment on the part of this Department, it would not be advisable to instruct the comrades who may be elected to represent this Department in the next National Encampment, to use their best endeavors to have the dues reduced.

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. GREENOUGH,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Boston, January 13th, 1873.

The Council of Administration, having examined the financial accounts of the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department, as provided in Chapter III., Art. VI., Sect. 9, of the Rules and Regulations, find a balance on hand, December 31st, 1872, amounting to one hundred and two dollars and sixteen cents (\$102.16); and they take pleasure in commending the admirable system and accuracy displayed throughout the Department accounts.

WILLIAM WOODS,
LEMUEL POPE,
Council of Administration.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR.

Commander and Comrades of the Convention :

Having been appointed Department Inspector by General Orders No. 2, dated February 5th, 1872, I have the honor to submit the following report.

During the year the following comrades were appointed Assistant Inspectors :—

S. M. WEALE,	Post 23,	East Boston.
W. H. CUNNINGHAM,	" 32,	South Boston.
C. B. BALDWIN,	" 4,	Melrose.
E. L. NOYES,	" 49,	Newburyport.
J. SILLOWAY, JR.,	" 94,	Canton.
G. F. FROST,	" 29,	Waltham.
E. C. WHITNEY,	" 43,	Marlboro'.
GEO. W. WILSON,	" 5,	Lynn.
A. O. KINNEY,	" 103,	Chicopee.
W. H. OSBORNE,	" 124,	East Bridgewater.
G. H. PATCH,	" 142,	South Framingham.
W. B. C. EMERSON,	" 62,	Newton.
JOHN CORTHELL,	" 112,	South Scituate.
A. M. PARKER,	" 10,	Worcester.
JAMES F. MEECH,	" 10,	Worcester.
F. B. SMITH,	" 2,	Nantucket.
J. A. SMALL,	" 128,	Provincetown.
E. BOLTWOOD,	" 36,	Amherst.
E. M. WOOD,	" 126,	South Adams.
P. N. SPRAGUE,	" 104,	Hingham.
E. W. TOOMBS,	" 59,	Sterling.
GEO. H. HOWARD,	" 57,	East Cambridge.
CHAS. H. LITTLEFIELD,	" 39,	Lawrence.
EDWARD TOWNSEND,	" 37,	Spencer.
E. P. BOWEN,	" 46,	Fall River.
HENRY PARSONS,	" 43,	Marlboro'.
E. B. MACY,	" 19,	Fitchburg.
J. W. BIGELOW,	" 37,	Spencer.
FRANKLIN JACOBS,	" 112,	South Scituate.

The following have resigned during the year :—

E. C. WHITNEY,	Post 43,	Marlboro'.
W. H. OSBORNE,	" 124,	East Bridgewater.
JOHN CORTHELL,	" 112,	South Scituate.
E. W. TOOMBS,	" 59,	Sterling.
E. TOWNSEND,	" 37,	Spencer.

Some of these resignations, coming in at the eleventh hour, will be the cause of my not making a complete report to the Convention.

I am happy to be able to say to the Convention, that the Posts in this Department are now in splendid working order, with very few exceptions.

I have received reports from all of my assistants, except the eighth district, comprising Posts 8, 13, 73, 74, 76, 78, and 124, which has not, so far as I can learn, been inspected at all, and the resignation of the Inspector, coming to me at so late a day (December 18th, 1872), I have been unable to get a comrade to take his place. The reports received agree substantially in facts and figures with the details of the Adjutant-General's report, and are, therefore, not repeated here.

The expense of my Department has been larger than last year, which is accounted for by the fact that many of the Inspectors have visited the Posts in their district twice.

I find that many of our Posts are in the habit of adjourning through the summer months, thereby violating the Rules and Regulations, which say that Posts shall meet at least once a month.

In my two former reports I have called the attention of the Convention to the neglect of Post Commanders in not having their commands ready for inspection on the nights appointed by the Inspector. This fault still exists in a few of the Posts, though, as a whole, there is not so much need of improvement as there was last year. By the officers of the Posts attending to their duties this trouble can be disposed of, and I trust that my successor will have no cause to mention it to the Convention.

Many of the Posts in this Department have been holding Fairs, Entertainments, etc., this winter, and, so far as I can learn, with splendid success; and it seems to me that the feeling of the community at large, toward the Grand Army, is growing stronger and stronger every day, and I question very much if any secret society receives so large a share of the public sympathy and patronage as the Grand Army of the Republic.

In conclusion I desire to say that, after three years' experience, I am more than ever convinced that the Inspection Department is a most important part of our work, and I hope that my successor may always receive the same hearty support that has always been given me, for much of the success of this Department is due to the very able assistance I have received from the members of the Staff and the Assistant Inspectors.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

In F., C., and L.,

CHAS. O. WELCH,
Department Inspector.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

The Medical Director respectfully reports that from the medical returns, which have been transmitted to Headquarters, the following statistics are collected : —

Number of comrades who have lost their right arm . . .	51
“ “ “ “ left “ . . .	27
“ “ “ “ both “ . . .	1
“ “ “ “ a leg . . .	79
“ “ “ “ both eyes . . .	1
“ “ “ “ been wounded . . .	1,461
“ “ “ otherwise injured . . .	180

Making the total number of injuries 1,800

It is to be feared, however, that the above figures give but a very incomplete view of these facts, since many of the Posts have made no medical reports; others are deficient, and with some it is probable that the same injuries appear in more than one report.

In justice to the Post Surgeons, some of whom have been extremely careful and accurate in their returns, it should be understood that in many of the Posts, especially the larger ones, it is no easy matter to obtain these facts, with the desirable degree of accuracy, from the difficulty of seeing all the members personally. In addition to this, a fruitful cause of error must arise from the fact that the blanks furnished do not specify distinctly whether the whole number is to be reported each quarter, or only the additional ones from the previous report.

In taking leave of the Department as Medical Director, the undersigned desires to express his sense of the unsolicited and unexpected honor which was conferred upon him by his election, as well as his grateful thanks to all with whom he has been brought in official communication, for their uniform courtesy and kindness, and to Comrade PEIRCE, the A.Å.-G. of the Department, especially, for valuable assistance in the care and consolidation of his returns.

I have the honor, gentlemen and comrades, to remain, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

JOEL SEAVERNS,
Med. Dir. of Dept. of Mass., G. A. R.

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN.

Mr. Commander and Comrades :

I find myself unexpectedly called upon for a report. I have none written. If you will allow me to make a verbal report,

although necessarily imperfect, I shall be most happy to accede to your demand.

In that erudite volume some of us studied years ago,—“the Army Regulations,”—the duties of the Chaplain were UNDEFINED; and so I found in the Rules and Regulations of the G.A.R. no clear indications that a report would be expected from me at this time, and hence my apology for apparent neglect. But as my duty as Department Chaplain has, during the past year, been more among its chief officers, I presume comrades desire to know of their moral condition first.

Aware that privates sometimes think the officers live faster than *they* can, let me state frankly, that I think, for the past year, our Department officers have been a very *sober set* of men. Though the personal appearance of some of them should be against the statement, I can only say, in the language of the poet, “Things are not what they seem.” Robust health and great modesty may give a tint to the cheek, and a good conscience and well-watered hard-tack an enlargement in the trunk of the body, especially in the gastric region.

But joking aside, the Headquarters of the Department of G.A.R. of Massachusetts, for 1872, seem to me in a good moral condition. So, as far as I can gather, this is true throughout the Department. The Posts all welcome, as far as I know, the service, labor, and sympathy of the Chaplains.

This has been most marked at funeral services and on Memorial Day. I trust this is to continue, and, with the thronging memories which make that day so precious to surviving comrades, let us gather its lessons, that as we go on in the great march it may be with faces towards the light of heaven, and with hopes over which death shall cast no shadow.

Let me add, that the office of Chaplain in our Posts I consider very important. As a poor Chaplain in the army was as cumbersome and useless as the fifth wheel of a coach, so also was a good faithful working Chaplain a most important officer to the highest well-being and order of a regiment; so in our Posts, the office of Chaplain is among the most important. We want good ones. Any Christian soldier, desiring to do a good work, will find it so if he will undertake it, and magnify it by reverence and devotion to the interests of all its members.

Let me urge this upon our Posts. Select wisely your Chaplains. Let them also seize the opportunity thus opened of doing good, and by self-denial, if need be, make its labors, under God, successful, and by and by its work shall be as stars in your crown of rejoicings, and in the *present* joy, as something done to hasten the great *victory*.

GEO. S. BALL,
Chaplain.

Voted, To accept the several reports.

By unanimous consent Comrade ATTWOOD, of Post 113, moved that the Commander be requested to furnish a copy of his address for publication, and that one thousand copies of the proceedings of this Encampment, containing the Commander's address and the several reports, be printed for gratuitous distribution among the Posts of this Department.

Carried.

The committee, of which Comrade FOX was chairman, reported as follows:—

Resolved, That the delegates from this Department to the National Encampment be, and hereby are, instructed to recommend to the Encampment such alteration or amendment of Art. 6, Chap. V., Rules and Regulations of 1872, as will abolish the system of trial by courts-martial, and leave the question of discipline to the several Posts, where it properly, under certain rules and restrictions, to insure fairness and uniformity, belongs.

Resolved, That the character of the changes to be recommended be left to the judgment of the Council of Administration of this Department.

Voted, To accept the report, and adopt the resolutions.

Comrade FILKINS, of Post 15, offered a resolution relative to publishing the names of members dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues.

Tabled.

Voted, That so much of the report of the Assistant Quartermaster-General as refers to reduction of dues be referred to the Council of Administration, they to report thereon at the present meeting.

Commander EMERY, of Post 26, on behalf of the Post, invited the Encampment to lunch, and it was *voted*, to adjourn for one hour.

Upon reassembling, Senior Vice-Commander HOPKINS introduced the following, by unanimous consent:—

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Encampment be tendered to Thos. G. Stevenson Post 26, of Boston Highlands, for the sumptuous and elegant entertainment provided by them for the Encampment.

Carried.

Comrade MACY, of Post 19, offered the following, by unanimous consent, in accordance with instructions from his Post:—

Resolved, That the next Annual Encampment of this Department be holden in the city of Fitchburg.

And it was so voted.

The following resolution was introduced by Junior Vice-Commander CHURCHILL : —

Resolved, That the delegates to the National Encampment be requested to procure a change in the burial service, by which it may be rendered more impressive, especially in the service at the grave, and that a committee of three be appointed to draft a new service, the form of modification to be submitted to the Council of Administration for their approval, and in the event of its approval, to be presented, by the delegates, to the National Encampment.

Carried — And Junior Vice-Commander CHURCHILL, Commander PRIOR, of Post 56, and Chaplain BALL, appointed committee.

The following report was then submitted : —

To the Department Encampment :

The committee appointed under Special Orders No. 20, Department of Mass., C.S., to consider and report upon General Orders No. 3, National Headquarters C.S., in regard to the establishment of Industrial Homes by the State, for the care and education of the children of deceased comrades, having fully considered the subject in all its bearings, unanimously report, that, in their opinion, no action is expedient in this State.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

For the Committee,

WM. COGSWELL.

Voted, To accept the report.

On motion of Commander WHITNEY, of Post 43, it was

Voted, That in case it should be found necessary to hold a session of this Encampment in July next, said meeting be holden at Marlboro'.

Voted, That a committee of nine be appointed to retire and bring in a list of candidates for delegates to the National Encampment.

The following comrades appointed : B. J. MCCORMIC, Post 57, C. G. ATTWOOD, Post 113, J. G. BOVEY, Post 34, LEMUEL POPE, Post 135, S. C. PARSONS, Post 39, J. A. G. RICHARDSON, Post 42, J. SILLOWAY, Jr., Post 94, H. M. CONVERSE, Post 44, J. W. BIGELOW, Post 37.

A motion to have a Department parade was offered by a comrade from Post 90, Danvers.

Voted, To lay on the table until after the election of officers.

Comrade SHERWIN, in behalf of the Committee on Installation Service for Department Officers, reported as follows :—

Resolved, That the elected officers of this Department shall be installed by the retiring Commander or Past Department Commander, in Convention; but the officers elect not present at the Convention, and the appointed officers, may be installed at any stated meeting of the Council of Administration, or at such other time as the Department Commander may select, taking the obligation as hereinafter provided for Staff Officers.

The form for Installation, as prepared by the committee, was submitted, and it was

Voted, To accept the report, and adopt the recommendations.

The following report from the Council of Administration was accepted, and laid upon the table:—

The Council of Administration, to whom was referred the subject of reducing the per capita tax to National Headquarters, as suggested by the Assistant Quartermaster General in his report, would most respectfully report that, as the present tax is 12 cents per comrade, it would be but just and equal to reduce the same to .08 cents per comrade.

And in our opinion the delegates to the National Encampment should be so instructed.

WILLIAM WOODS,
LEMUEL POPE,

For the Council of Administration.

Voted, To proceed to the election of a Commander for the ensuing year, and that the chair appoint a committee of five to receive, assort and count votes. Comrade HOVEY, of Post 113, BALDWIN, of Post 4, WILSON, of Post 5, TIFFTS, of Post 16, and BABBITT, of Post 3, appointed as the committee.

Voted, That a committee of five be appointed to receive, assort and count votes for Senior Vice-Commander.

Comrades WOODS, of Post 7, DUNN, of Post 35, POLLEY, of Post 53, HUNT, of Post 17, and PHIPPS, of Post 14, appointed.

The ballot for Commander resulted as follows:—

Whole number of votes	216
Necessary for a choice	109
A. B. UNDERWOOD, of Post 62	176
W. H. CUNDY, of Post 7	33
J. W. KIMBALL, of Post 19	5
J. H. BARNES, of Post 23	2

And Comrade UNDERWOOD's election was made unanimous.

Voted, That a committee of three be appointed to wait upon the Commander elect, and request his presence.

Comrades EMERY, of Post 26, ATTWOOD, of Post 113, and HURD, of Post 75, appointed, and Comrade UNDERWOOD was presented, and addressed the Encampment.

The ballot for Senior Vice-Commander resulted as follows : —

Whole number of votes	205
Necessary for a choice	103

J. W. KIMBALL, of Post 19	172
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E. C. WHITNEY, of Post 43	30
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WM. WASHBURN, JR., of Post 138	3
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And Comrade KIMBALL's election was made unanimous.

The following officers were elected by a single ballot, cast by the Assistant Adjutant-General, by unanimous vote of the Encampment : —

Junior Vice-Commander, LEMUEL POPE, Post 135	
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Medical Director	D. D. GILBERT, " 68
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Chaplain	GEO. S. BALL, " 22
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Voted, That a Committee of nine be appointed to submit a list of candidates for members of the Council of Administration.

Comrades EMERY, of Post 26, BARNES, of Post 23, WILLIAMS, of Post 139, HALL, of Post 120, PARKER, of Post 10, MILLARD, of Post 7, DUTTON, of Post 72, WEBBER, of Post 42, and LAWRENCE of Post 66, appointed.

The sign of recognition, and a new countersign, were communicated to the delegates.

The committee to nominate a list of delegates and alternates to the National Encampment, submitted a report which was accepted.

Moved — To proceed to ballot.

Amendment — That the list reported by the committee be read, and such names as are not objected to shall be entered upon one ballot, and that the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to deposit it as the vote of the Encampment.

Carried — And the following were unanimously elected, in accordance therewith : —

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.		ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.	
Henry Sibley,	Post 11	Wm. Cogswell,	Post 34
DELEGATES.		ALTERNATES.	
Chas. O. Welch,	Post 57	C. C. Emery,	Post 26
Chas. H. Chase,	" 34	S. J. Spaulding,	" 49
Geo. S. Merrill,	" 39	Thos. Sherwin,	" 144

G. A. Churchill,	Post 68	T. C. Webber,	Post 42
A. M. Tilton,	" 47	J. D. Cogswell,	" 131
Henry B. Peirce,	" 73	A. O. Kenney,	" 103
Geo. T. Childs,	" 11	E. B. Blasland,	" 125
Luke Lyman,	" 44	W. S. B. Hopkins,	" 120
G. H. Babbitt,	" 3	Wm. Spalding,	" 11
		D. H. Smith,	" 145

Voted, To proceed to the election of two delegates and one alternate, and that a committee of three be appointed to receive, assort, and count votes.

Comrades Fox, of Post 68, Frost, of Post 15, and Dyer, of Post 7, appointed.

Voted, To accept report of committee to nominate candidates for members of Council of Administration.

Voted, to reconsider.

Voted, To recommit the report, with instructions to make one alteration, and then the committee reported the following:—

Comrades WM. WOODS, of Post 7, J. P. MAXFIELD, of Post 42, H. E. HILL, of Post 139, H. WILSON, JR., of Post 35, and GEO. H. HOYT, of Post 123.

Voted, To accept the report. The ballot was dispensed with, and they were unanimously elected.

The Committee, of which Comrade Fox was chairman, reported no choice in the ballot for delegates, and it was voted to proceed to another ballot.

Voted, To take the report of the Council of Administration, relating to Department dues, from the table.

Voted, That the delegates from this Department be instructed to use their endeavors to have the dues reduced from twelve to eight cents per year, if, in their judgment, it can be done without detriment to the interests of the Grand Army.

Comrade W. H. CARNEY, of Post 146, received 71 votes for delegate to the National Encampment, and was declared elected. Whole number of votes 104. *Moved*, by Comrade SPALDING, of Post 11, —

That it is the sense of this Encampment, that the next annual Encampment should be called at eight o'clock in the evening of the day prescribed.

Voted, To refer to the Council of Administration, with full powers.

Voted, That a new committee of three be appointed to receive, assort, and count votes for the remaining delegates.

Comrades BARNES, of Post 35, KELSO, of Post 11, and FISHER, of Post 143, appointed.

Voted, That a committee of three be appointed to receive, assort, and count votes for the remaining alternates.

Comrades LEE, of Post 11, FILKINS, of Post 15, and PIKE, of Post 149, appointed.

The ballot for the last delegate resulted as follows:—

Whole number of votes 87

Necessary for a choice 44

Comrade W. H. CUNDY, of Post 7, received 45 votes, and was declared elected.

The following was introduced by Comrade SIMPSON, of Post 142:—

Resolved, That the sincere and earnest thanks of this Encampment be extended to its retiring officers, for the faithful and impartial manner in which they have conducted the duties of their respective positions during the past year.

Carried—And appropriate remarks made by Commander SIBLEY.

The Chaplain having submitted a verbal report, it was voted that he be requested to furnish a copy of his remarks for publication with the reports of other Department officers, and he, having complied therewith, it appears in the order of reports.

No choice on first ballot for remaining alternates, voted to proceed to a *second*.

Whole number of votes 48

Necessary for a choice 25

Comrade JACOB SILLOWAY, JR., of Post 94, received 35, and was declared elected.

Voted, To proceed to the installation of the officers elect, and those who were present were duly installed by Commander SIBLEY, as follows:—

Commander A. B. UNDERWOOD.

Junior Vice-Commander LEMUEL POPE.

Chaplain GEO. S. BALL.

Council of Administration WM. WOODS.

Voted, To adjourn.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1872.

GENERAL ORDERS }	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
	366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
	BOSTON, Jan. 20, 1872. }
No. 1. }	

I. Having been elected by the Department Convention, Commander for the present term, I accept the trust and hereby assume command, with Headquarters as above.

II. Comrade Henry B. Peirce of Post 73, Abington, is hereby appointed Assistant Adjutant-General, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. All communications relating to the Adjutant's and Quarter-master General's Departments will be addressed to him.

III. The following-named Comrades have been duly elected officers of the Department for the ensuing year:—

H. R. Sibley of Post 11, Charlestown, Commander.

W. S. B. Hopkins of Post 120, Greenfield, Senior Vice-Commander.

Gardner A. Churchill of Post 68, Boston (Dorchester), Junior Vice-Commander.

Joel Seaverns of Post 26, Boston Highlands, Medical Director.

Geo. S. Ball of Post 22, Upton, Chaplain.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

William Woods of Post 7, Boston.

W. O. Fiske of Post 42, Lowell.

H. M. Phillips of Post 16, Springfield.

H. A. Cushman of Post 3, Taunton.

J. G. B. Adams of Post 5, Lynn.

DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Wm. Cogswell of Post 34, Salem (at large).

J. H. Barnes of Post 23, East Boston.

Geo. S. Merrill of Post 39, Lawrence.

H. S. Briggs of Post 98, Pittsfield.

C. A. Campbell of Post 35, Chelsea.

Thomas Sherwin of Post 144, Dedham.

Chas. Devens, Jr., of Post 10, Worcester.

Henry B. Peirce of Post 73, Abington.

Chas. H. Parsons of Post 45, Gloucester.

Brownell Granger of Post 26, Boston Highlands.

W. H. Cundy of Post 7, Boston

Henry A. Willis of Post 19, Fitchburg.

IV. The announcement of the Staff will be made hereafter.

Official:

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

H. R. SIBLEY,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4,
BOSTON, Feb. 5, 1872. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 2. }

I. The following Comrades are announced upon the Staff of the Commander:—

W. S. Greenough of Post 23, East Boston, Assistant Quarter-master-General.

Chas. O. Welch of Post 57, East Cambridge, Inspector.

W. W. Blackmar of Post 113, Boston, Judge Advocate.

HONORARY STAFF.

Geo. H. Long of Post 11, Charlestown, Chief.

C. B. Fox of Post 68, Boston (Dorchester), Aide.

S. W. Wheeler of Post 35, Chelsea, Aide.

Hubbard M. Abbott of Post 44, Northampton, Aide.

Geo. R. Kelso of Post 11, Charlestown, Aide.

S. C. Warriner of Post 16, Springfield, Aide.

Geo. T. Childs of Post 11, Charlestown, Chief Mustering Officer.

ASSISTANT INSPECTORS.

S. M. Weale of Post 23, East Boston.

W. H. Cunningham of Post 32, S. Boston.

C. B. Baldwin of Post 4, Melrose.

E. L. Noyes of Post 49, Newburyport.

Jacob Silloway, Jr., of Post 94, Canton.

G. F. Frost of Post 29, Waltham.

E. C. Whitney of Post 43, Marlboro.

Geo. W. Wilson of Post 5, Lynn.

A. O. Kinney of Post 103, Chicopee.

W. H. Osborne of Post 124, East Bridgewater.

G. H. Patch of Post 142, S. Framingham.

W. B. C. Emerson of Post 62, Newton.

John Corthell of Post 112, S. Scituate.

A. M. Parker of Post 10, Worcester.

J. F. Meech of Post 10, Worcester.

F. B. Smith of Post 2, Nantucket.

J. A. Small of Post 128, Provincetown.

Edmund Boltwood of Post 36, Amherst.

E. M. Wood of Post 126, S. Adams.

They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. The General Court-martial convened by General Orders No. 8, series of 1871, and of which Comrade S. M. Weale is President, is hereby dissolved.

III. Posts that have not received the new secret work, can do so by applying at these Headquarters through some Comrade authorized by them to receive it, and provided with written authority, signed by the Post Commander and Adjutant. Posts that cannot conveniently comply with the above, will notify the Assistant Adjutant-General, and the Inspector will communicate the work in person.

IV. At the Annual Encampment it was voted to recommend to the different Posts the necessity of taking action, so that needy soldiers and sailors can receive aid from cities and towns without going through the form prescribed for paupers (as set forth in Circular of Post 18). It was also voted that Post Adjutants be instructed to forward a list of all rejected applicants to Department Headquarters, to be published in General Orders. The entire proceedings will be published, in conjunction with Past Commander Cogswell's address, and forwarded to the Posts at an early date.

* * * * *

VI. The Assistant Adjutant-General's office will be open daily from 10 to 12 and from 2 to 4, except Saturdays, when it will be closed in the afternoon.

VII. A list of Posts in this Department, together with the title, name of Commander, and night of meeting, is appended for the convenience of Posts and Comrades.

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

H. R. SIBLEY,
Commander.

GENERAL ORDERS }	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, BOSTON, March 11, 1872. }
No. 3.	

I. The following-named Comrades are hereby appointed Assistant Inspectors: P. N. Sprague of Post 104, E. W. Tombs of Post 59, Geo. H. Howard of Post 57, Chas. H. Littlefield of Post 39, Edward Townsend of Post 37, E. P. Bowen of Post 46. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. The following list of districts, with assignments, is published for the information of the Posts:—

First District: Posts 7, 15, 30, 113, 134, and 138. Geo. H. Howard, E. Cambridge, Assistant Inspector.

Second District: Posts 23, 26, 57, 68, 143, and 144. W. H. Cunningham, S. Boston, Assistant Inspector.

Third District: Posts 4, 11, 32, 35, 94, and 125. S. M. Weale, E. Boston, Assistant Inspector.

Fourth District: Posts 56, 62, 66, 81, and 139. G. F. Frost, Waltham, Assistant Inspector.

Fifth District: Posts 34, 82, 89, 90, 118, and 132. Geo. W. Wilson, Lynn, Assistant Inspector.

Sixth District: Posts 5, 12, 33, 75, and 95. C. B. Baldwin, Melrose, Assistant Inspector.

Seventh District: Posts 21, 29, 105, 117, and 142. W. B. C. Emerson, Newton, Assistant Inspector.

Eighth District: Posts 8, 13, 73, 74, 76, 78, and 124. W. H. Osborne, East Bridgewater, Assistant Inspector.

Ninth District: Posts 40, 58, 87, 88, and 112. P. N. Sprague, Hingham, Assistant Inspector.

Tenth District: Posts 52, 72, 91, 110, and 121. J. Silloway, Jr., Canton, Assistant Inspector.

Eleventh District: Posts 83, 104, 111, and 127. John Corthell, S. Scituate, Assistant Inspector.

Twelfth District: Posts 49, 100, 101, 108, 114, and 122. E. L. Noyes, Newburyport, Assistant Inspector.

Thirteenth District: Posts 39, 42, 45, 47, 67, 102, and 106. Chas. H. Littlefield, Lawrence, Assistant Inspector.

Fourteenth District: Posts 1, 3, 46, 55, 129, 133, 141, 145, and 146. E. P. Bowen, Fall River, Assistant Inspector.

Fifteenth District: Posts 6, 14, 18, 22, 43, 63, and 70. Geo. H. Patch, S. Framingham, Assistant Inspector.

Sixteenth District: Posts 9, 48, 54, 59, 64, 86, 96, and 135. E. C. Whitney, Marlboro, Assistant Inspector.

Seventeenth District: Posts 10, 20, 24, 25, 27, 28, 60, 61, 77, 97, 99, 107, 131, and 136. A. M. Parker and James F. Meech, Worcester, Assistant Inspectors.

Eighteenth District: Posts 19, 31, 50, 53, 69, 109, 116, and 123. E. W. Toombs, Sterling, Assistant Inspector.

Nineteenth District: Posts 37, 38, 51, 65, 85, and 140. Edward Townsend, Spencer, Assistant Inspector.

Twentieth District: Posts 16, 41, 71, 103, and 119. A. O. Kinney, Chicopee, Assistant Inspector.

Twenty-first District: Posts 17, 36, 44, 80, 92, 93, and 120. Edmund Boltwood, Amherst, Assistant Inspector.

Twenty-second District: Posts 79, 98, 115, 126, 130, and 137. E. M. Wood, S. Adams, Assistant Inspector.

Post 2 will be under charge of F. B. Smith, Nantucket, Assistant Inspector.

Post 128 will be under charge of J. A. Small, Provincetown, Assistant Inspector.

III. The Department Inspector will enjoin upon his assistants the necessity of prompt action, and the attention of Post Commanders is called to recent General Orders from National Headquarters. Bear in mind that upon the first of April a report must be forwarded to these Headquarters of the amount disbursed for charity, from whatever source, for the year ending March 31, with number of comrades aided, together with the number aided who were not comrades; also, a surgeon's report, giving number of members wounded, nature of wounds, etc. Posts that have not the requisite blanks for the latter (Form F), will order them at once. These reports, with the Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports for first quarter, 1872, must be forwarded together by the Post Commanders promptly upon the first of the month, in order that this Department may not be behind others in the grand summing up.

At the present time only one Post in our Department is in arrears for reports or dues, and the Commander trusts that *every* Post will respond cheerfully and with alacrity to the foregoing.

For the purpose of receiving the needful instructions to secure uniformity in the work and to promote the efficiency of the Inspection Department, the several Assistant Inspectors are hereby directed to meet the Department Inspector at these Headquarters, on Saturday, March 16, at 2 P.M.

* * * * *

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

H. R. SIBLEY,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R. }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4. }
BOSTON, April 6, 1872. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

* * * * *

II. Post Commanders who have not forwarded reports for last quarter, are again reminded that they must do so at once, as the consolidated reports will be forwarded to National Headquarters upon the 15th inst. There is required an Adjutant's report, a Quartermaster's report, a Surgeon's report (Form F), and a report of the relief work done by

Posts during the year ending March 31. Posts in arrears for either or all of the above are urged to use dispatch and show a clear record. Communications from Posts to Department Headquarters should always be signed by Post Commanders.

* * * * *

IV. Comrade E. W. Toombs having tendered his resignation as Assistant Inspector, 18th District, the same is hereby accepted and his successor will be announced in future Orders.

V. Comrade Charles H. Chase of Post 34 has been appointed Aide on the Staff of the Commander, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

H. R. SIBLEY,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, June 6, 1872.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 5. }

I. Comrade Edward B. Macy of Post 19 is hereby appointed Assistant Inspector of the 18th District, vice Toombs, resigned.

II. The following Posts have been organized since the promulgation of General Orders No. 2: Isaac Dean Paull No. 55, Taunton, Frederick Thayer, Commander. Post No. 84, S. Deerfield, Lorenzo Draper, Commander. Post No. 147, Norwood, Chas. B. Dexter, Commander. Post No. 148, Winchester, John T. Wilson, Commander.

III. The Commander has noticed, in visiting Posts, that comrades from other Posts are admitted upon being vouched for by comrades of the Posts visited, when unable to pass an examination. Comrades must not vouch for members, unless they know them to be in good standing in the Posts from which they hail.

The Commander has also noticed that some of the Posts have not established a Post countersign for the inner door. Post Commanders will at once communicate a countersign to their own members, to be used at the inner door, wherever it has not already been done.

The officers of Posts who have duties to perform at the ceremony of Muster-in of Recruits are urged to memorize their parts of the Ritual, as the service is thereby made much more impressive.

IV. Badges at eighty cents each, and extra ribbons at fifteen cents, may be had by applying to the Assistant Adjutant-General, through Post Quartermasters.

V. The Commander desires to know the amount of money appropriated by towns for the observance of Memorial Day in this Department; and Post Commanders will please forward with their reports for the second quarter a statement of the amount received by their Posts.

* * * * *

Post Commanders will see that all rejections are entered in the Black Book as fast as published, and Investigating Committees will in all cases refer to the same before reporting upon applications.

VII. Quarterly reports from Posts will be due July 1. The Commander trusts that he has only to remind Post Commanders of the necessity for promptness on their part, in order that the consolidated reports may be forwarded to National Headquarters before July 20. At the National Encampment this was pronounced "the most thoroughly organized and efficient Department in the Order." If we would maintain

this position, we must keep the files well closed. Posts 109, 110, 115 and 130 are in arrears for reports for first quarter, 1872.

* * * * *

XI. It is recommended that the copy of the "Proceedings of the National Encampment," which accompanies this Order, should be read to each Post the first regular meeting after its receipt.

By order of

H. R. SIBLEY,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS }	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
	366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
	BOSTON, Sept. 9, 1872. }
NO. 6. }	

* * * * *

VI. The following Posts are in arrears for reports:—Posts 52, 77, 88, 10, 110 (two quarters), 115 (two quarters), 130 (two quarters), 132, 137, and 138.

VII. At a regular meeting of the Council of Administration, held September 4, the resignation of Comrade H. A. Cushman, a member thereof, was received and accepted; and Comrade Lemuel Pope of Post 135 was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy.

VIII. The Commander has noticed, in visiting the Posts, that some of the Quartermasters accounts are loosely and badly kept. This should be remedied at once, and a ledger account kept with every member in permanent form. He has also noticed, in many instances, that the files of orders from National and Department Headquarters were incomplete; and Post Commanders are reminded that copies of orders are sent to them to be read to the Post and placed on file, and not for their own personal information.

IX. The Rules and Regulations, as revised at the last National Encampment, have been received, and can be obtained from these Headquarters, at eight cents per copy.

By order of

H. R. SIBLEY,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
	366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
	BOSTON, June 12, 1872. }

I. The Department Commander has accepted the invitation of Post 11, to command the Posts to take part in the celebration of the Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill and the Dedication of the Soldiers and Sailors' Monument in Charlestown, on the 17th inst.

On the morning of the 17th, the Headquarters of the Department will be at Grand Army Hall in that city.

The several Posts will be divided into companies of twenty men each, as near as practicable.

The line of the Grand Army is to be formed on Main Street, with the right resting on City Square; and, as the procession is to move promptly at 10 o'clock, every Post should be in place at 9.30. The

Assistant Adjutant-General will form the Posts in numerical order, and will divide the command into two divisions. The first will be commanded by Comrade G. A. Churchill, Junior Vice-Commander, and the second by Comrade Geo. H. Long, chief of the honorary Staff of the Department Commander.

Posts arriving by the Eastern and Boston and Maine Railroads will leave the train at Prison Point Station. The commanding officer of each Post or detachment will report upon arrival to Comrade H. B. Peirce, the Assistant Adjutant-General, for assignment in the line.

Comrades will appear in dark clothes (citizens'), with G.A.R. cap, or in United States regulation blouse and belt, with same cap; and no other uniform will be worn.

II. The several Boston Posts will assemble on the Common (Tremont Street mall), right resting on Park Street, at 8.40 A.M., promptly, and will then proceed to Charlestown under command of Junior Vice-Commander Churchill.

Post Commanders will report as above to Comrade S. M. Weale, Asst. Adj.-Gen. of the First Division.

By order of

H. R. SIBLEY,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
BOSTON, Dec. 5, 1872. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 7. }

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II. Comrade John W. Bigelow of Post 37 has been appointed Assistant Inspector, vice Townsend, resigned. Comrade Franklin Jacobs of Post 112 has been appointed Assistant Inspector, vice Corthell, resigned. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

III. The following Posts are in arrears for reports: Posts 6, 31, 36, 62, 114 115 (three quarters), 128, 132 and, 134.

* * * * *

V. The annual Encampment of this Department will be held in the hall of Thos. G. Stevenson Post No. 26, Guild Row, Boston Highlands, on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1873, at 12 o'clock M., for the election of Department officers and such other business as may come before it. Posts will be entitled to representation in the ratio of one delegate for every fifty members, with one additional number for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to choose at least one member.

As none but regularly-elected delegates, or alternates, will be admitted to seats in the Encampment (Past Commanders being members by virtue of their office), care will be taken to elect none but those who will attend. Delegates and Post officers are elected for one year at the last regular meeting in December.

VI. Post Commanders are reminded that it is their duty to forward all reports (Adjutant's, Quartermaster's, and Surgeon's), and that they, together with all dues and a list of the delegates and alternates, must be in the hands of the Assistant Adjutant-General before the 10th prox., in order to secure representation in the Encampment. Requisite blanks should be ordered at once.

VII. The Commander of Post 26 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and a sufficient number of Sentinels, for duty

during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General at 11.30, on the 15th prox., for instructions.

VIII. A new countersign will be communicated to the Posts in the Department at the annual Encampment; also the recognition sign adopted at the National Encampment in May last.

IX. Comrade W. W. Blackmar, Judge Advocate, is hereby excused from duty with the court-martial convened by General Orders No. 6, Par. 1, C. S., from these Headquarters, and Comrade W. H. Cundy of Post 7 will act in that capacity.

By Order of

H. R. SIBLEY,

Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
BOSTON, Dec. 12, 1872. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

I. In accordance with the provisions of the "Installation Ceremonies," the following-named Comrades are designated as Mustering Officers, and will install the officers of the Posts whose numbers appear against their names: A. H. Quint, 1, 146; H. A. Cushman, 3, 55; C. B. Baldwin, 4, 12; J. G. B. Adams, 5, 95, 118; J. H. Barnes, 7, 23, 138; H. Parsons, 9, 43, 96; A. M. Parker, 10, 131; Geo. S. Ball, 14, 22; G. H. Howard, 15, 30, 56; H. M. Phillips, 16, 41, 103; Geo. H. Hoyt, 17, 123; G. H. Patch, 18, 63, 142; J. W. Kimball, 19, 53, 69; W. B. C. Emerson, 21, 62, 81; G. F. Frost, 29, 139; W. H. Cunningham, 32, 125; L. W. Osgood, 33, 75, 148; D. W. Lee, 26, 35, 134; Edmund Boltwood, 36, 97; J. W. Bigelow, 37, 38, 51; Geo. S. Merrill, 39, 47; J. P. Maxfield, 42, 102; Luke Lyman, 44, 92; Benj. F. Cook, 45, 67, 106; E. P. Bowen, 46, 129, 141; S. J. Spaulding, 49, 114, 122; W. J. Coulter, 64; Geo. R. Kelso, 66, 143; A. O. Kinney, 71, 80, 119; J. Siloway, Jr., 72, 94; W. McKay, 79, 126, 130; Chas. H. Chase, 82, 89, 90, 132; John Corthell, 83, 104, 112; A. Withey, 84, 120; J. T. Stevens, 87, 88, 110; Luther Day, 101, 108; P. C. Grover, 105, 117; W. H. Hill, 115; Thos. Sherwin, 121, 144, 147; S. H. Bugbee, 133, 145; E. W. Toombs, 28, 59; W. H. Osborne, 13, 52, 124; Jeremiah Looby, 73, 74, 78. The officers of Posts 34, 68, and 113 will be installed by Chief Mustering Officer Geo. T. Childs.

II. Officers-elect of Posts not enumerated above will be installed by the Senior Past Commanders of their respective Posts.

III. It is recommended to Posts that the ceremonies of installation be public, whenever it is convenient and suitable arrangements can be made; care being exercised that no part of the opening, closing, or initiatory ceremonies is used, or any part of the secret work of the order.

By order of

H. R. SIBLEY,

Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4, }
BOSTON, Jan. 1, 1873. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

I. Particular attention is called to the following error in General Orders No. 7, Par. 5: "Past Commanders being members (of the Department Encampment) by virtue of their office." It should read "Post

Commanders being members," etc., etc. Past Commanders are not members. By a change in the Rules and Regulations at last National Encampment, Past Department Commanders were made members of the Department Encampment so long as they remain in good standing in their respective Posts.

II. Post Commanders are again reminded that all reports, together with the dues, and a list of delegates and alternates, must be forwarded before the 10th inst., that the Adjutant's and Quartermaster's report must be forwarded together, and that they should be compared before forwarding. In several instances Commanders have sent lists of delegates and no list of the alternates.

III. In accordance with the recommendation contained in General Orders No. 3, C.S., from National Headquarters, the Commander has appointed Comrades William Cogswell of Post 34, James L. Bates of Post 58, Jos. A. Titus of Post 10, Luke Lyman of Post 44, and Chas. B. Fox of Post 68, a committee to consider the resolutions referred to therein. They will report to the Department Encampment.

IV. The Council of Administration will meet at the Headquarters of Post 26, Boston Highlands, on the 15th inst., at 10 A.M.

By order of

II. R. SIBLEY,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.



A. B. UNDERWOOD,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1873.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT FITCHBURG,
1874.

JANUARY 21.—EVENING SESSION.

THE Encampment was called to order at 7 o'clock, by Commander Underwood, all of the Department officers present except Medical-Director D. D. Gilbert and Chief Mustering Officer J. G. B. Adams.

The roll was called, and 248 comrades, representing 96 Posts, answered to their names.

The Commander informed the Encampment that in response to an invitation the Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Charles Devens, Jr., with several members of his staff, was in the city for the purpose of attending this meeting, and it was

Voted, That a committee of five comrades be appointed to wait upon the Commander-in-Chief and request his presence.

The Commander appointed Comrades Kimball, Senior Vice-Commander Granger of Post 26, Merrill of Post 39, Pickett of Post 10, and Lyman of Post 44, to constitute that committee.

In the temporary absence of the Chaplain, prayer was offered by Comrade Fiske of Post 21.

Post 19 elected four delegates at their annual meeting in December, that being the number to which they were entitled by their Adjutant's report for third quarter, 1873; but the report for fourth quarter only provided for two, and accordingly only two were admitted. Comrade Macy, on behalf of the delegation, asked that the remaining two be admitted.

Comrade Parsons, of Post 45, asked admission. The Commander had declared the election of Post 45, held in December, to be illegal, and that the several offices were vacant. Comrade

Parsons was elected a delegate by that election, and was the only representative of his Post now present.

Voted, To admit the delegates in question to the evening session without permission to act.

Voted, To dispense with the reading of the records of the last Encampment.

Voted, To pass over business from the Council of Administration.

At this point the Commander-in-Chief entered the hall, accompanied by Adjutant-General Sibley, A.D.C. Attwood, and the committee appointed to wait upon him. Comrade Devens was presented to the Encampment by the Commander in a few well-chosen words, and was received, on their part, with loud and enthusiastic cheering. In response, the Commander-in-Chief briefly and eloquently addressed the Encampment.

Then followed the Commander's address.

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER UNDERWOOD.

Comrades:

Another year has closed in prosperity to our cherished organization. Another year, which that merciful Providence who saved us from the perils of the field and the sea, has permitted so many of us to live and enjoy the blessings of peace, which, under His guidance, we helped to conquer. To the God of battles and the Giver of peace and good-will on earth, let us now, as always, first render our grateful acknowledgments.

In this Order of ours, which, from its constitution, must be short-lived, a wise precedent expects that the chief honors conferred by you will not linger long in any hands, but be rapidly transmitted to the many, fully as deserving, who are waiting to receive them. This precedent meets my sincere approval, and conforms to my personal wishes. In surrendering back to you now, at the expiration of my term of office, the high trust which in your great partiality—surely for no deserts of mine—you confided to me a year ago, I shall also follow precedent, and doubtless conform to your expectations, in giving an account, though it be but a hurried one, of my administration of your affairs, of the state of the Department, and some results of my observations.

During the past year this Department has maintained its growth, and been maturing in strength, character, and useful-

ness. Considering the condition of other Departments, ours in Massachusetts has had a remarkable history. It has been my privilege to watch and be familiar with its successive changes. I was attracted to the Order, and became a member in 1867, the year in which the Department was permanently organized, with ten Posts and about 250 members.

January 1, 1868, it had 40 Posts and 1,900 members.

"	1869,	"	73	"	6,189	"
"	1870,	"	117	"	9,000	"
"	1871,	"	142	"	10,800	"
"	1872,	"	144	"	11,208	"
"	1873,	"	145	"	11,000	"

All this while we have been recruiting our ranks, death has been recruiting his. The wounds, the fevers, and the hardships of the service, have been the enemy's allies, and now henceforth he will gather his trophies rapidly.

During a part of this period, too, the unfortunate change to the grade system, with its complications; the dropping of members for non-payment of dues, from misfortune, perhaps, oftener from loss of interest, or from never having had any; and the lopping off of the unworthy, have made heavy drains upon our membership. To keep our numbers recruited up, and steadily to gain during nearly all this time, proves great merit in our organization.

For the future we cannot expect our numbers to be largely augmented, only to hold our own as long as natural causes will permit. We expect and invite no substitutes into our veteran ranks; only those tried and proved in the ordeal of active service can enter our doors, and of such the number is lessening. While we have been steadily and healthily growing, some Departments have been retrograding; some have disappeared except on paper; none have continued their growth as we have.

To-day our Department is larger in numbers than any in the Union, larger than New York and Pennsylvania combined, which are larger than any but Massachusetts, and to-day Massachusetts is paying a heavy tax to the National organization. This great prosperity is due to the energy and fidelity, comrades, of you, and the Posts you represent; and to the persistency with which you all have kept politics out of our proceedings; and to the loyalty with which the great majority of our comrades have clung to and illustrated the fundamental principles of our Order.

The interest prevalent among us has been manifested in many ways the past year. Among the most noticeable features of a public character have been the very successful county parades, that took place the past autumn. Our comrades of Essex County alone had shown their enterprise and enthusiastic spirit by local

parades, till in 1872 Plymouth County was induced to follow this worthy lead, and this past year two more counties. The first of three parades last September, was at Taunton: 24 Posts from Plymouth, Bristol, and Norfolk Counties, commanded by Past Department Commander Bates, 1,200 comrades in line. The next at Lynn, the annual parade of Essex County: 13 Posts, 1,300 comrades, under command of Comrade Dalton, of Post 34. The third at Worcester, of 21 Posts from that county: 1,300 comrades in line, commanded by Post Commander Meech, of Post 10. A novel and interesting feature here, was a mammoth camp-fire, and torch-light parade in the evening. A fourth parade was held in October, at Lowell, of the Posts of Middlesex County: 22 Posts and 1,200 comrades, commanded by Past Department Commander Sibley. These four parades were all skilfully managed, well officered, and ranks orderly and soldierlike, as becomes our Order. The movements were generally prompt, and in Essex, notably, the march was completed to the minute on the schedule.

They were inspiring occasions. It stirred the blood of old soldiers in an unwonted way, to see these solid columns of veterans marching steadily, with that old *swing* that veterans can never forget, and none others imitate, with which they marched to scores of victories, and even back from plucky defeats; and to ride down the long lines of those bronzed and scarred heroes of the Peninsula and the Wilderness, of Antietam and Gettysburg, Roanoke Island, New Berne, Fort Wagner, Port Hudson and the March to the Sea, and perhaps of the Hartford and the Kearsarge, the hundred fluttering colors, symbols of as many victories they had helped to win for the old flag.

And these brave old lines melted away, the day after, into the same diligent and staid and trusted citizens they had been the day before.

Two of these occasions were honored with the presence of the Commander-in-Chief, our distinguished Massachusetts Comrade Devens; at one there was present the Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Goble, then Commander of the Department of New Jersey.

I trust these county parades will become established as annual parades, and that this year the energetic posts of Suffolk County will give us a field day, and turn out their solid strength in review; so may the Western and Southern counties as far as practicable.

The county parades do not seem to be attended with some of the practical difficulties that the Council of Administration and many comrades have anticipated for Department parades, which have from time to time been urged. I hope, however, yet to see at least one imposing parade of all the Posts of the State.

Besides these parades, there have been in various sections many other gatherings of Posts and comrades, in Post and neighborhood camp-fires, and interchanges of visits between Posts, some of which I had the pleasure of attending; speeches, camp songs, and stories, narratives from campaigns, music, recitations, and snatches of the drama, have furnished an abundant and attractive variety at these pleasant renewals of old ties; at the raking together, as it were, for one night, of the deserted embers of bygone bivouacs, scattering, often copiously, among the ashes, hardtack and bacon and the smoke of pipes and the weed that cheers, for *Auld Lang Syne*. I trust at these camp-fire assemblages, that often verge on midnight, the camp narratives, songs and stories of comrades will always be of such a character and with such a moral that the Department Chaplain would always be a welcome and an approving guest. Doubtless our good Chaplain, in his exhaustive report on the moral welfare of the Department, will put at rest all our misgivings on this score.

Noteworthy triumphs, the past year, of the enterprise, perseverance and noble purposes in our ranks, and as well of the continued unbounded confidence of the public in us, have been the several fairs which have been held in various places, under the auspices of some of our Posts: some with gigantic results; although portions of the community welcome fairs about as they would visits of the destroying angel. So far as any definite information has reached Headquarters, the sums realized have been as follows, approximately: at Salem, \$7,000; Lynn, \$4,000; Chelsea, \$4,000; Charlestown, \$2,500; Cambridge, \$2,250; Newburyport, \$1,800; East Boston, \$1,000: a total of \$22,550; and all this since September.

The report of the Inspector will be submitted to you in detail by that officer: as it is made up largely from the reports of able and painstaking Assistant Inspectors, mostly veterans in the Order, of what they see and learn in personal visits to the Posts in their several districts, it will give you the best reliable information as to the real condition of the organization among us, and the interior workings within the Post rooms. The Department owes a debt of gratitude to these self-sacrificing comrades, for the work they undertake, and the traveling to and fro they do, for the love of the Order. Nothing tends more, doubtless, to stimulate and keep up an interest in the Posts, than personal visits of inspecting and other officers of the Department, with words of cheer and counsel. The Department cannot now afford to increase the expense in this direction, however advantageous, otherwise, it might seem to be to do so.

From the consolidated reports it will appear that the Grand Army in this State was never more flourishing than now, never greater interest prevailed, nor more gratifying results achieved

in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, and I hasten to say the credit mostly belongs to the members of the Posts themselves. It is interesting information to find by the reports that the approximate total charity fund of all the Posts, on September 30, amounted to \$64,474.74; that there was expended in charity for the year, approximately, \$33,000; while generally interest prevails in Posts, and the meetings are attractive and therefore well attended, it is not always the case in some, and far from the case in others. Pains must be taken in the working of Posts, to insure success, as in all other undertakings in this probationary world; and in the Grand Army of the Republic it must be by competent executive officers or committees. We never put much stress on Ritual in Massachusetts; we expect it to give us tests by which we are to distinguish those who seek and are found worthy to be of us, and to remind us ever of our principles; that is about all. Ritual alone will not make crowded meetings; it will take something more; interesting business, active work in charity, debates, narratives, entertainments, social features. I recommend an inquiry into the working of the Marlboro system, the holding of monthly tea-parties in the Post room, with the wives and sweethearts and mothers, who were our warmest and bravest and most patient and self-forgetting allies at home, while we were in the field.

It has seemed to me, if each Post could have some competent committee to look after it, that much might be made of narratives of army experience, descriptions, discussions of army scenes and campaigns by the several members, each in his own way, whether by essays, lectures, perhaps familiar letters, reading from diaries, with accompanying explanations, even off-hand talks about occurrences in the field. Any and all of these, whether from the highest officer or the humblest private, would be interesting, often even thrilling. Who of us would not listen hours to hear such narratives? A time is coming when attentive ears will listen with awe to stories from these veteran witnesses who may survive, of the old fights in the field or on the sea. Let us now, while the history of the war is being written, hasten to gather up and preserve all this valuable testimony accessible, before too many of these witnesses disappear forever.

The report of the Assistant Adjutant-General will be first presented to you; it is naturally first in order. By it, it will appear that the number of comrades in good standing in the Department is, by latest reports, about 11,000; number dropped during the year for non-payment of dues, 1,482; restored to membership, 1,077; discharged, 131; net apparent loss, 131; but mostly a loss of those who are no help to us. Number of new Posts chartered during the year, including January, 8; number of Posts that have surrendered their charters or had them

revoked, 7; number in arrears for reports or dues, 0. All the ills that the Grand Army existence is heir to, all the shortcomings of officers, and often of members, are known to the Assistant Adjutant-General; he will doubtless present his usual bill of indictment. I pray that the Post Commanders present will not despise the gentle scourging of the Assistant Adjutant-General; "For whom he loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth everyone," if they are not up to the mark. I trust peaceable fruits will follow. I desire to press home a reflection for the consideration of these same worthy executives. The Rules and Regulations, the order for services, and Ritual, make the Post Commander, the chief and representative of his Post, responsible for its reports, returns, and correspondence to the Department Commander. His acts and opinions, and those of the Post through him, the Department Commander revises or affirms on appeal or otherwise. The Department Commander should always know that the Post Commander has personal cognizance of all the correspondence with his Post. Yet though orders on this subject have been repeated by nearly every Department Commander, communications still come, in too many cases signed by the Post Adjutant, and not by the Commander, and necessary delay is caused by returning them. Comrades are hardly aware, probably, of the number of questions referred during the year to Headquarters, to be illumined by some of that wisdom with which they seem to be credited; many of these can be answered by referring to orders, and the Regulations with which all Post Commanders certainly should be familiar; many nobody could answer; many, together with all court-martial proceedings, are referred first to the Judge Advocate for his legal opinion; he will doubtless report to you the number of opinions rendered by him in the year, together with any suggestions that from experience in his Department he may deem to be of advantage.

The Rules and Regulations provide for trials by courts-martial, which shall be governed in their mode of proceeding and rules and evidence by the Revised United States Army Regulations, and military usage. The Department Commander must administer the law as he finds it, impartially. Sometimes the sentence is disapproved, and perhaps an unworthy member goes unpunished, because the proceedings are not even within gun-shot of the requirements. Better bear with these erring brethern a little longer, than suffer the reproach of having tried them unfairly. It would be well, often, if in constituting courts the Post Commander could select as Judge Advocate or member, some comrade who had a little experience in army courts-martial.

An important report will be that from the Assistant Quartermaster-General. The financial problem tries us in this vale of sorrows, disagreeably often. Our Quartermaster assures us

though, that we about make both ends meet, by due economy. It has been necessary for Headquarters to be as economical as possible the past year, and save money where we could. Inspection expenses are a somewhat heavy tax, though this year they have been only \$400 or less, against \$801.44 last. It will be borne in mind, this year we have been relieved from one of the two inspections formerly prescribed. Traveling and hotel expenses are the items that cost the Department. The comrades who perform the duty generously give us their time, often at a sacrifice to them. Doubtless most of the Posts would cheerfully share a portion of these expenses with the Department, if it were thought desirable; the hotel expenses if nothing else. It will be prudent for the Encampment to seek some mode of reducing the expenses, as an examination of the reports of the Assistant Quartermaster-General for the several years will show. In the following exhibit, the expenses include national dues, salaries, inspection expenses, rent, printing, traveling expenses of delegates.

In the year 1869 the net income was	\$1,787.41
Expense	1,528.66
Balance exclusive of Cash balances	<u>\$258.75</u>
In the year 1870 there was no printed report.	
In the year 1871 the net income was	\$4,714.10
Expense	4,448.12
Balance	<u>\$265.98</u>
In the year 1872 the net income was	\$4,181.46
Expense	5,246.98
Balance deficit	<u>\$1,065.52</u>
In the year 1873 receipts were	\$3,734.40
Expenses	3,739.34
Balance deficit	<u>\$4.94</u>

In some years expenses are paid that properly belong to the previous year. We pay now about \$1,500 yearly as dues to the National Headquarters, or more than one-third of our whole income, and it is due to you to say Massachusetts has always promptly and scrupulously paid these dues, as she has faithfully performed her other duties in the Order, with a delicate regard, we think, to the proprieties. The National Encampment, this year, permitted us to select for Commander-in-Chief, a distinguished son of our own State. Whether our delegates to the next Encampment should urge a reduction of the national dues, it is for them to say, aided by such expression from this body as it may feel called upon to make. The fire which occurred in

Boston, last Memorial Day, destroyed property of Post 113, and of both the Department and National Headquarters. It has been necessary to replace, at considerable expense, books and blanks lost by the Department. A greater loss, which it has not been so easy to replace, was that of the Department records and files of orders, vouchers and papers. It is a significant fact, stated on the authority of the Assistant Quartermaster-General, that within the last four years the comrades of this Department have paid in for badges the sum of \$10,000. That is no mean tribute to the high standing of the organization, and expresses the value the comrades put upon these symbols of membership. The last National Encampment, acting under an article long standing in the Regulations, selected a badge designating official position in the Grand Army of the Republic and recommended it to the Departments and Posts for adoption. It wisely, I think, left it to their option, and did not limit the purchase, so that it should be left to any one contractor. This badge is intended to be simple, a combination with the bronze star of membership, and furnishes a convenient and suitable means of designating responsible officers, on public occasions, parades, Memorial-Day services, and otherwise. It is already largely worn in the Posts of this and other Departments.

The Chief Mustering-Officer was called upon to provide for the installation of all the Post officers at the opening of the new year, and nearly all at the same time. His brief report will hardly give an idea of the aggregate amount of work done in this service by the Assistant Inspectors and Past Post Commanders.

We must look to the Medical Director for a careful review of our sanitary condition; but we know as well as he that the wounds of victory as well as the tortures of defeat, the old shell and the bullet-scars, the sufferings of the prison-pen, though now long over, keep on silently doing their work. Our time is short, comrades. Whatever we are to do, let us do quickly and together. As the gaps thicken in our line, let us close up closer, feel the touch of each other's elbows, and push forward the column, holding high our banner so that all can read on its folds, Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. Let us as a society undertake nothing that is not fairly in accord with our principles; let us neglect nothing that is. One noble duty we can perform better than anyone else, and we can perform it better today than ever again; and that is to collect, without delay, every record we can find of every comrade who has fallen in battle, or died in service, or at home in peace, and put it in such permanent form, and in such safe keeping, that their and our children and children's children may know what manner of men were their fathers, and what sacrifices were the price of the nation's salvation. And if there is no record, as, alas, in many cases — even of the noblest

—there is not, make one. You the living witnesses, while yet you may, testify what you saw and knew of this comrade and that. In a hundred years your testimony will be reckoned among the treasures of history. Tell the orators who write your Memorial-Day addresses, or speak to you when you dedicate monuments and memorial halls; and your simple stories they quote will outlive all the rhetoric of their most polished speeches. There was no soldier or sailor who did his duty, whether the highest officer or the humblest man in the ranks, whose record is not worthy of being preserved. See to it now that every honored name from your neighborhood is placed upon some roll of honor, memorial tablet, town or city record; printed records, if possible, with the letter, number, and name of the company, regiment, battery, ship, or organization in which he served. With this key, and with this alone, perhaps you and posterity can trace the career of every comrade who served from Massachusetts in the Adjutant-General's Record of our Volunteers, published by the wise forethought of the legislature of our beloved Commonwealth; and a copy of which should be in every Post room, and not, as was formerly actually provided by law, in every jail and house of correction! surely no soldier who had a worthy record is ever found there to read it. With that key, too, we can enter the national cemeteries, and find the honored resting-place of each fallen soldier, unless he be of that lamentable but brave list which the head-stones record as "unknown." Let us, too, keep every trophy of glory won by our comrades' valor, and part with it reluctantly. Not even a battle-name of defeat, much less of victory, would we have dropped from the regimental flags that record their bravery, and which should be henceforth sacred. In our several spheres, wherever proper, we can deprecate any legislation that would seek to obliterate such precious memories of the past. We can safely trust the nation, during this generation at least, to preserve these symbols of our brothers' heroism; and can therefore afford to be charitable and magnanimous as we should be towards those who honestly differ with us; especially those around whom still lingers the halo of long-trusted leadership. There are records of past services in the councils of the nation too noble ever to be forgotten by us who had the honor to fight its battles.

The Council of Administration will submit to you the record of its proceedings, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, in which it will appear that it was deemed inexpedient to call together the Encampment in July. Before closing, I cannot forbear to express my great obligations to the Council, and also to the several Chiefs of the staff departments belonging to the Headquarters, whose able, efficient, and willing services, rendered always with courtesy alike to the Commander and the

comrades, have contributed whatever of success has attended the administration this year. It will not be deemed invidious, I trust, to especially mention the Assistant Adjutant-General, Comrade Peirce, whose whole time is devoted — in fact, his body and soul — to the interests of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The duties of my personal staff have not been arduous — that was my loss — but such as they were have been courteously rendered.

Comrades, I have already detained you too long from your deliberations; trusting these will be wise and harmonious, and contribute to the still greater success of our Order in this Department, I again thank you sincerely for conferring upon me the highest distinction in your gift. And when, at the end of this Encampment, I shall return again to the illustrious ranks of the Grand Army, I shall carry with me a precious and lasting remembrance of the generous regard and confidence with which I was once honored by the representatives of eleven thousand of the veteran soldiers and sailors of Massachusetts.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Boston, January 21, 1874.

Commander and Comrades of the Department:

I have the honor to submit the following report for the year 1873: —

Number of Posts, December 31, 1872	149
Number of members, in good standing, appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1872	11,219
Number of Posts, December 31, 1873	151
Number of members, in good standing, appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1873	11,088

The following charters have been surrendered during the year: —

Post 40	North Weymouth.
“ 92	Easthampton.
“ 100	Ipswich.
“ 106	Rockport.
“ 119	South Hadley Falls.
“ 135	Acton.

The following charters have been granted during the year:

Post 40	Malden.
“ 92	Brighton.
“ 100	West Brookfield.
“ 106	Holbrook.
“ 119	Lexington.

Post 135	Shrewsbury.	
“ 150	Erving.	
“ 151	West Newbury.	
Number of members admitted by muster		1,451
“ “ “ transfer		234
“ “ “ reinstatement		1,077
“ “ lost by death		129
“ “ “ honorable discharge		131
“ “ “ transfer		260
“ “ dropped from the rolls		1,482
“ “ suspended		1,251
“ “ dishonorably discharged		3
“ “ remaining suspended		1,573
Number of rejected applications reported during the year		50
The amount disbursed for relief purposes by the several Posts during the year, so far as reported, was		\$31,634.40
Number of comrades and their families aided		739
Number of soldiers, not members, and families of deceased soldiers, aided		981

This report is for one hundred and thirty-seven Posts. The status of the remaining fourteen is as follows: viz., Nos. 92, Brighton; 135, Shrewsbury; and 151 West Newbury, just organized and no reports due. Nos. 20, Blackstone; 76, Plymouth; 130 Williamstown; 140, Sturbridge; 141, Fall River; and 146 New Bedford, no reports received for fourth quarter. No 124, East Bridgewater, in arrears for two quarters.

Post 2, Nantucket, has made no reports for two quarters, and their membership upon the Island being reduced to seven comrades, their charter has been annulled by the Commander with the advice and consent of the Council of Administration. Posts 31, Ashburnham; 115, Lee; and 128, Provincetown, have made no reports during the past year, and their charters have also been annulled. The action concerning these four Posts was taken by the Council at their first meeting of the present year, and might properly apply to the year just closed, leaving us one hundred and forty-seven Posts at the close of the fiscal year, instead of one hundred and fifty-one.

Post 40, of North Weymouth, was in comparatively good condition, but preferred to surrender its charter and identify itself with a more prosperous sister Post in the same town. The other Posts surrendering were for the most part weak, small in numbers, and lacking in all the essential elements which go to make a live Post. A letter received from the last known Commander of one among the number, gave us the first news of such proceeding in the following language: “You needn’t send no more orders; our Post is gone up long ago; we think

the Grand Army is about played out." Truly it must have been in that Post; if that was the best they could do for a Commander, it is presumed that their end was timely.

Although this report shows a falling off of one hundred and thirty-one members during the past year, the loss is tempered to us in the knowledge that the kind of members which contribute to the "dropped" list do not contribute to our usefulness. We think of the quality of a certain tract of land which made the owner poorer the more he had of it, and are reconciled.

A few words about relief work must come in somewhere, or the Commander will pronounce my report incomplete. I said in my report one year ago, in effect, that Posts should confine their relief work to those residing in their own vicinity except in extreme cases, and am convinced that I did not put it strong enough. While lost in admiration of the generosity displayed by individual comrades and relief committees, I am forced to deplore their lack of judgment. The story of Charlie Downs, a destitute comrade on his way to his home in Maine from Tennessee, has brought tears to the eyes of many a comrade in this Department, and cut down the relief fund of many a Post. He did a thriving business, and if any Post was slighted it was probably because of an article which appeared in the papers the day it became known at Headquarters that he was *excursionizing*.

An order was issued early last season asking Post Commanders to notify Headquarters *at once* of any applications for aid from traveling soldiers, and yet the first notice received of the above case began, "About three weeks ago a person calling himself Charles Downs," etc. Now in that three weeks he had *done*, on an average, say one Post per day, and would soon be ready to betake himself to "new fields and pastures green," while if Headquarters had been notified *at once* he might have been prevailed upon to transfer his field of operations sooner. I hope, Post Commanders, that you will, during the coming year, take the name of every traveling applicant, and a description of him, whether you help him to a dinner, to a railroad ticket, or a night's lodging, or whether you refuse any aid, and send it to Headquarters by the next mail; in this way we can stop these traveling impostors, and protect our citizen friends as well as ourselves from being preyed upon. However, the good accomplished with our Relief fund overbalances the bad a thousand times; it is done in our own midst; we know it better and better every year; we see comrades cared for, families of the slain made comfortable, and never a thought or feeling on the part of either that it is a charity. The work is performed in a manner never equalled by any organization, and our friends, the public, do not tire of their part. Does anyone think that our services are to be forgotten? Not yet! Post 34, of Salem, spent \$2,500 last year for relief purposes. They held a fair a

few weeks since, and realized \$7,000. Panics make no difference, they can get all the money they wish, because the people know they are making a good use of it. It is so in the Post to which I have the honor to belong: it is so in every Post where the comrades are all working together, and are practicing what our Rules and Ritual teach.

I have taken so much of your time in this direction, that I must be brief in whatever else there is to say. Plain talk with Post officers availeth nothing, when reduced to writing, and embodied in the Assistant Adjutant-General's report, of that I am satisfied; have tried it two years without any visible effect. Adjutants and Quartermasters, very many of them, continue to send their reports separately, direct to Headquarters, instead of to their Post Commander, for comparison and to be forwarded by him, and frequently they have to be returned because they do not agree. Every Post officer should be familiar with so much of the Rules and Regulations as refers to his duties, to say the least; and it is not for lack of interest that he does not, but because he does not set about it. I have been very moderate in fault-finding throughout my report, the Commander having vouchsafed a helping hand in that direction. The great fire of May 30 last, destroyed the archives of the Department, and every paper pertaining to this office, as well as copies of reports forwarded to National Headquarters, which had been transferred to the same room only the week before. However, by the kindness of Post officers, in forwarding duplicate reports, copies of orders, etc., I have been able to restore files and preserve landmarks, so that the actual damage was not so great as was feared at first. Notwithstanding an entire new supply of desk outfit, stationery, etc., had to be procured, it will be noticed in the Assistant Quartermaster-General's report, that the office expenses have been reduced from last year. Having exhausted the several topics, and your patience, it only remains for me to express my appreciation of the very great kindness which has been shown me by the many comrades with whom I have held official and personal converse; may their trials be few and their blessings many. Another year of the history of the Grand Army is written, a year fraught with noble impulses and good works; a year in which every true comrade has been benefited by his connection with the Order, in that he has striven to be worthy of the *name* of comrade. So let the years roll on, each in its turn chronicling numberless fraternal, charitable, and loyal acts, keeping the pages free from blot or stain, which would surely come, were we, as an organization, to depart one iota from the strictest letter of our laws concerning everything political or sectarian.

Submitted in F., C., and L.,

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

BOSTON, Jan. 21, 1874.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment :

I have the honor to submit the following Report for the year 1873, in compliance with the Rules and Regulations of our Order :—

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand at last Report	\$102.16
“ received for Department dues, fourth quarter, 1872	894.64
“ “ “ “ first “ 1873	886.24
“ “ “ “ second “ 1873	910.56
“ “ “ “ third “ 1873	873.52
“ “ “ arrearages, first quarter, 1872	2.64
“ “ “ “ second “ 1872	7.68
“ “ “ “ third “ 1872	62.48
“ “ “ “ fourth “ 1872	16.64
“ “ “ Charter fees, Posts 40, 92, 100, 106, 119, 135, 150, 151	80.00
“ “ from sales of Badges	1,480.80
“ “ from sales of Books, Blanks, &c.	618.78
Total	<u>\$5,945.58</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Cash expenditures, as per vouchers	\$5,838.92
“ on hand, Dec. 31, 1873	106.66
Total	<u>\$5,945.58</u>

The expenditures have been for the items, and in the amounts named below :—

For traveling expenses of Delegates to Nat'l Encampment	\$85.00
“ printing Proceedings of last Department Convention	140.00
“ expenses of Mustering Officers	11.25
“ “ “ Inspectors	178.75
“ salary of Assistant Quartermaster-General (10 months)	250.00
“ salary of Assistant Adjutant-General (11 months)	1,100.00
“ dues to National Headquarters (3 quarters)	1,041.63
“ Books, Blanks, &c., sold to Posts	1,081.10
“ Badges sold to Posts	1,350.00
“ rent, printing, postage, and incidental expenses of De- partment Headquarters	601.10
Total	<u>\$5,838.92</u>

Total assets of Department, December 31, 1873 :—

Amount due from Posts for Books, Blanks, Badges, &c.	\$141.31
Value of Books, Blanks, &c., on hand	342.65
Cash on hand	106.66
Total	<u>\$590.62</u>

Total known liabilities of Department, December 31, 1873 :—

Salaries, rent, and office expenses	\$222.62
Dues to Nat'l Headquarters for third quarter, 1873	332.31
Inspectors' Bills	288.30
Total	<u>\$843.23</u>

Excess of liabilities over assets \$252.61

It will be seen from this account, that, while the expenses of the Department have been much less than in some of the preceding years, the expenditures have exceeded the receipts, and the Department owes about \$250 above its assets. Although this may not be an agreeable item of information to this Encampment, it is a fact, and one that calls for the serious consideration of the comrades here assembled. There are many present who will remember that for the past two years or more I have not ceased, in season and out of season, in Department conventions, council meetings, and in private conversation, to urge the importance of making some determined and systematic effort to reduce the *per capita* tax paid by Department to National Headquarters, as the best apparent means of placing our Department on a sound financial basis.

At our last annual convention, it will be remembered that the delegates chosen to represent this Department in the National Encampment were instructed, by a unanimous vote, "to use their endeavors to have the dues reduced from twelve to eight cents;" but, so far as I have been able to learn, the question was not brought to a vote in the National Encampment; and the delegation will, doubtless, inform this convention what efforts were made to carry out their instructions in the matter.

This Department is now paying annually into the treasury of the National Encampment a sum which, in my opinion, is nearly if not fully sufficient to cover the entire expenses of National Headquarters under the present economical management. This we ought not to do; and, as the condition of our finances shows, we cannot afford to do. The burden of debt which National Headquarters carried for several years has—by means of the large *per capita* tax, increased from four to twelve cents per annum for this specific purpose, and under the excellent management of its officers—been wiped out; and at the present time there is a balance of several thousand dollars in its treasury, to aid in the accumulation of which this Department has made itself penniless. And it seems that we may, through our delegates to the next National Encampment, ask for a reduction of dues as a simple act of justice to this as well as all other Departments. I have prepared a brief comparative statement of the receipts and expenditures of Department Headquarters during the last four years, which may be of value to this convention in its deliberations upon this as well as other important questions which may come before us.

RECEIVED.		EXPENDED.	
<i>For Charter Fees:</i>		<i>For Salaries:</i>	
1870	\$340.00	1870	1,160.83
1871	90.00	1871	1,787.50
1872	70.00	1872	1,625.00
1873	80.00	1873	1,350.00

For Dues:

1870	\$3,077.43
1871	3,572.08
1872	3,711.10
1873	3,663.84

For Inspection:

1870	\$466.03
1871	270.20
1872	801.44
1873	178.75

EXPENDED.

For rent and incidental expenses of H'd-q's Office, including traveling expenses of delegates to National Conventions:

1870	\$1,160.83
1871	801.54
1872	1,424.97
1873	837.44

For Dues to Nat'l Headquarters:

1870	\$284.47
1871	1,635.09
1872	1,395.57
1873 (3 q's)	1,041.63

In the disastrous fire of May 30, 1873, the estimated loss of Department Headquarters in books, blanks, &c., was \$300; and office furniture, stationery, &c., valued at about \$250. Very little of the latter has been replaced, owing to the low state of our finances; and at the present time the Department is not the owner of a single desk, table, or chair. There will be noticed in the items of rent and office expenses, and in inspection expenses, a marked decrease from the figures of last year.

There are many other facts connected with the financial interests of this Department to which I might allude; but, trusting that it has been made plain to the convention that some immediate action looking toward retrenchment is demanded, and believing that *all* the interests of the Department will be safe in the hands of those comrades who may be selected to fill the various official positions, I will close this my fifth annual report with hearty thanks to each of the officers and comrades with whom I have had official intercourse, for the many acts of courtesy and consideration I have received; and if my services have in any measure, however small, contributed to promote the best interests of our Order, I am more than repaid for what time and labor the duties of my office have required.

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. GREENOUGH,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, G.A.R.,
BOSTON, January 21, 1874.

The Council of Administration, having examined the financial account of the Assistant Quartermaster-General of this Department, as directed in Chapter III., Art. VI., Sect. 9, of the Rules and Regulations, find the same to be correct, with a balance on hand, December 31, 1873, amounting to one hundred and six dollars and sixty-six cents (\$106.66).

The Council take pleasure in calling the attention of the Encampment to the system adopted, and economy practised, which has resulted so favorably, showing a reduction in the general expenses for the past year of about \$700 from that of the year previous.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM WOODS,
JARED P. MAXFIELD,
HERBERT E. HILL,
HENRY WILSON, JR.,
GEO. H. HOYT,
Council of Administration.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Convention:

Having been appointed Department Inspector by General Order No. 2, dated February 19, 1873, I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition and efficiency of this Department as far as it has come under my charge. During the year the following comrades were appointed Assistant Inspectors:

Brownell, Granger,	Post 26,	Boston Highlands.
James M. Johnston,	" 125,	South Boston.
S. M. Weale,	" 23,	East Boston.
T. J. Buffum,	" 139,	Somerville.
Thomas Swasey, Jr.,	" 82,	Marblehead.
C. B. Baldwin,	" 4,	Melrose.
W. B. Emerson,	" 62,	Newton.
Jeremiah Looby,	" 74,	East Abington.
P. N. Sprague,	" 104,	Hingham.
J. Silloway, Jr.,	" 94,	Canton.
Franklin Jacobs,	" 112,	South Scituate.
A. M. Tilton,	" 47,	Haverhill.
John A. G. Richardson,	" 42,	Lowell.
Fred S. Gifford,	" 1,	New Bedford.
G. H. Patch,	" 142,	South Framingham.
Henry Parsons,	" 43,	Marlboro.
A. M. Parker,	" 10,	Worcester.
James F. Meech,	" 10,	Worcester.
W. H. Scammell,	" 22,	Milford.
Edward B. Macy,	" 19,	Fitchburg.
J. W. Bigelow,	" 37,	Spencer.
A. O. Kinney,	" 103,	Chicopee.
Geo. C. Clapp,	" 44,	Northampton.
Herbert C. Joyner,	" 137,	Gt. Barrington.
John A. Mackie,	" 125,	South Boston.

The following have resigned during the year :—

James M. Johnston,	Post 125,	South Boston.
S. M. Weale,	“ 23,	East Boston.

I was very fortunate in the selections made for Assistant Inspectors, they proving to be very efficient in the discharge of their duties. Owing to the neglect, however, of one Assistant Inspector in not notifying me of his inability to fully attend to his duties, I have been obliged to depend on the reports of the Commanders of a few Posts for their status. From the reports received from the Assistant Inspectors I am happy to be able to say to the Convention that as a whole the Department of Massachusetts is stronger today than it ever has been before, if not actually in numbers, in the character of the membership and in the interest taken by the members. The reports agree with the Assistant Adjutant-General's Report as regards figures, and need not be repeated. With the exceptions above stated, the Department has been thoroughly inspected, more so, I think, than ever before, as some Posts were found working under the old work, and who reported that they had not seen an Inspector for two years. They were beginning to think that the Order was dying out, but they have been encouraged by the Assistant Inspector's visits,—have taken a fresh start and now seem to be doing well. A few of the Posts are reported weak—not so much as regards numbers, but that the members lack interest. This is caused in some Posts by comrades having been elected to office, who having thus attained the object of their ambition, have ceased to take any interest themselves either in the Posts or the objects of the Order, and certainly we cannot expect to find the members taking interest if it is lacking in the officers; and I would caution comrades against electing any one to fill the various offices simply because he is a good fellow. Our Order depends more upon the public than any other secret organization, and if we wish to have their sympathy and assistance we must elect those who have their confidence and respect, and who will do all in their power to promote the objects of our association. The officers of other Posts complain that it is hard work to get comrades enough present to hold a meeting unless on some special occasion—caused, perhaps, by comrades getting tired of attending meetings where there is nothing to interest them—where nothing is done save reading the Ritual. To such Posts I would say, have something special to interest the members at every meeting. After closing in due form, admit the lady friends of the comrades and have debates, musical or literary entertainments, as have been done by some Posts, thereby not only increasing the interest of the members but augmenting our numbers. There has been a decided increase of fraternal feeling between the Posts, and I find it is the practice of many to invite

neighboring Posts to visit them on any occasion of special interest; this adds to the festivities, and good feeling is thereby engendered between comrades. I sincerely trust that the Commander's recommendation that the Posts should hold county parades, will be fully carried out. I believe nothing has ever been done to increase the interest in the Order, both among members and the public, so much as holding these parades. My Assistant Inspectors report that a large number joined the Order the past year that they might be able to parade. Some of the Posts I find do not hold meetings regularly once a month. This violation of the Rules and Regulations must cease, or my successor will be obliged to report them to the Commander for proper action. In most of the more successful Posts I find that the Ritual has been memorized by the officers, and I would urge upon all officers elect to do the same, believing that not only will it greatly enhance the solemnity of the proceedings, and show that they take an interest in them, but it will strengthen the Posts. The expenses of my Department, I am happy to state, have been reduced nearly one-half from that of last year, though my accounts embrace a portion of last year's expenses, and all of this year's. Last year, however, two inspections were required. Too much cannot be said in regard to the great object of our association; the relief of our suffering comrades, and the widows and orphans whom the dead have left to our care. We are sometimes charged with being nothing but a political body; but if those who make these charges could know the amount of money expended for charity by different Posts, they would at least give us credit for living up to one of the great virtues of our Order. I am happy to be able to present to the Convention the total amount of money expended for charity by the Posts in this Department, for the year ending September 30, 1873; and also the total amount remaining in the Relief Funds at that date with the exception of a few Posts which do not keep the Relief Fund separate. I would urge upon these Posts to establish a Relief Fund at once in accordance with Article XII., Chapter V., of the Rules and Regulations. The total amount expended for charity from September 30, 1872, to September 30, 1873, was \$33,441.16; the total amount remaining in the Relief Funds September 30, 1873, was \$64,474.74. Since then many of the Posts have held fairs, entertainments, &c., with great success, and have added some thousands of dollars to their Relief Funds, and I feel sure that the sympathy of the community at large with the Grand Army of the Republic is as strong as ever. I coincide with the views of my predecessor in office in saying that on the efficiency of the Inspector's Department, depends to a great degree, the success of our Order. Through the Assistant Inspectors alone can the Department come in personal contact with and to a knowledge of the needs of each Post. It is necessary of course to have live com-

rades for Assistant Inspectors, comrades who are well posted in the work, who take an interest in the Order, and who would take pride in performing their duties promptly and efficiently. Such Assistant Inspectors, when once obtained, should in my opinion be kept in their position as long as it is possible, and I trust that my successor in office will find it advantageous to retain most if not all the present Assistant Inspectors. I believe they are comrades who are competent to fill the positions with credit to themselves and honor to the Department. In conclusion, I desire to thank them for the cordial support they have given me, and for the zeal and ability they have shown in carrying out the orders of the Department.

All of which is respectfully submitted in F., C., and L.,

EDWARD B. BLASLAND,

Inspector.

REPORT OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE.

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, G.A.R.,

JUDGE ADVOCATE'S OFFICE, BOSTON, January 20, 1874.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Massachusetts.

Comrade: The Judge Advocate has the honor to submit the following report:—

As the opinions of the Judge Advocate of this Department are subject to the revision of the Judge Advocate-General, at National Headquarters, whose opinions are final, and are of record, it would seem unnecessary to make any extended report, or to specifically set forth the decisions made during the year last past.

A large number of cases and questions, representing all phases of interpretation, which can be readily put upon the Rules and Regulations, have been submitted by our worthy Commander to his Judge Advocate, who has given his opinion upon them, as will appear by the records of the Adjutant-General's office of this Department.

Many interesting questions have come up from the Posts of this Department, relating to the legality of elections of officers, the holding of stated Post meetings, notice to members of Post elections, etc., etc.; but by far the most numerous and perplexing questions have arisen upon the enforcement of discipline in the Posts, and reviewing the proceedings of courts-martial.

In this connection I would respectfully suggest the value of giving to Posts, throughout the Department, by General Order or otherwise, a brief form of proceedings for courts-martial, so that uniformity and greater precision may be secured.

As the law officer of the Department, I respectfully call the attention of the incoming Department officers to the fact that the extension of the time for the payment of State Aid expires by limitation this year, and as the Grand Army of this Department once rallied, and by persistent and organized effort, succeeded in convincing the committee of the legislature, to whom the matter was referred, that the Commonwealth could not then honorably repudiate its obligations to its wards, our maimed comrades, and the widows and orphans of our dead; so now I respectfully suggest the propriety of taking early and united action, looking to the further continuance of this necessary relief to those who are the objects of our especial care.

Respectfully,

WILMON W. BLACKMAR,

Judge Advocate.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

In the absence of the Medical Director, and no report from him having been received, the Assistant Adjutant-General submitted the following:—

Reports have been received from the surgeons of one hundred and twenty Posts, showing

Number of comrades having lost right arm		48
“ “ “ “ left arm		43
“ “ “ “ both arms		2
“ “ “ “ a leg		80
“ “ “ “ both eyes		1
“ “ “ “ a leg and arm		2
“ “ “ “ been otherwise wounded		1,528
“ “ “ “ been otherwise injured		277

Many of the reports, of which the above is a consolidation, are incomplete, the Post Commanders giving as a reason that it was impossible to obtain the necessary information from all the comrades. If a full report should ever be made up it is believed that the number of wounded would be much larger.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN.

After some playful remarks, the Chaplain, Comrade George S. Ball, delivered the following, as his report:—

The Chaplains of our Posts have generally done their duty as faithfully as other officers in them. It is not a *post* often sought, however. It is thought, by some comrades, as of no importance whether the Post has a chaplain or not.

I magnify my office. If a true soul among the comrades wants to do a good work in his Post, let him aspire to be its chaplain. No other office offers so good an opportunity.

Many will hesitate, and ask for the qualifications, thinking these are *beyond* them. The good apostle, Paul, will answer them for me. "If any man desire the office of a bishop he desireth a good work. He must be the husband of one wife, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach, not given to wine, patient. Moreover, he must have a good report of them which are without."

These qualifications are simple, not beyond any true Christian soul. Let such take up the work, and make the office so *grand* and *true* that no Post can go on, and satisfy its members, without a chaplain. If any class of men ought to be thankful and devout, it is that of the soldiers of the last war. Led by the unseen hand of God's providence through ten thousand death-perils, and yet, spared and blessed, all our hearts should overflow with gratitude to Almighty God.

We are each year growing fewer. The Grand Army can have no recruits. Each year it will grow more and more conspicuous in the community. As its age increases, its influence must be greater and greater, if the virtues of its members keep pace with increasing years.

Let us then, officers and comrades, grow into such soldiers of *right* and God, that we shall be a *grand army* indeed, the grandest of all the church militant.

Our *Memorial Day*, observed by every Post in this Department, has become a national festival of memory and sad *recall*. Comrades, who shared with us the perils of field and camp—bound to us by all the associations of the soldier's life of hardship, sickness, suffering, and danger, until the name comrade has to us all a thrilling meaning—have fallen, and the places that have known them here shall know them no more on the earth. In the annual memorial, affection finds tender expression, and loyalty renewed inspiration.

They have fallen in a noble cause. God accepted, as I believe, their sacrifice. "Greater love than this hath no man, that he lay down his life for his friends." That highest expression of humanity they have given. They sleep where no longer the long roll of the drum, or the trumpet's exciting note of charge shall ever arouse them.

Their graves are made by the forts they assailed or defended; or on the field their valor won; or by the homesteads they saved. Over the places where affection comes to weep, a grateful country would, through comrades, strew with spring flowers. Above their sleeping dust we plant the loved colors under which we marched together, and the ensign of the country they died to

save. The last foul stain upon it has been removed by the combined valor of her volunteer armies, of which they were a part. Through their sacrifice it is the flag of the free. The wave of its ample folds is a welcome to the oppressed of all nations on the face of the earth, to the home of the brave.

The day of this honoring, sad but proud, shall grow in importance as our numbers here grow less, and the graves of our comrades increase in number.

Amid these sacred sepulchres we are assured they are not dead. Noble deeds can never die. They live, whose lives fruit each age, in the blessings of nobler liberties, grander humanities, and purer inspirations to the advancing generations. In the fellowship of their deeds, then, let us march; and each year's offering of spring flowers shall symbol our faith in the resurrection from the dead, the last great victory over the last enemy — death.

The address of the Commander was immediately followed by the presentation to him of a gold-headed cane, by Comrade H. E. Hill, of the Council of Administration, on behalf of the Encampment; and although the affair was a complete surprise to the Commander, he responded with much feeling and expressed his gratitude to the comrades for this additional token of their regard.

Following the reports, Senior Vice-Commander Kimball, on behalf of Post 19, extended an invitation to the Encampment to a grand promenade concert and ball at City Hall, given in its honor.

Voted, To accept the invitation.

Voted, That a committee of five be appointed, to whom shall be referred the cases of Posts 19 and 45. Comrades Emery, of Post 26, Hoyt, of the Council of Administration, Sherman, of Post 39, Bailey, of Post 11, and Blackmar, Judge Advocate, appointed.

Voted, That when we adjourn it be to meet in City Hall, at 9 o'clock A.M., tomorrow.

A motion that an Encampment countersign be given the delegates present, was lost.

Voted, To adjourn.

JANUARY 22.—MORNING SESSION.

The Encampment was called to order at 9 o'clock. The roll was called, and 294 members answered to their names, 113 Posts being represented.

Prayer by Chaplain Ball.

The following Posts, in good standing, were not represented; viz., 16, 25, 36, 41, 60, 80, 83, 84, 86, 87, 88, 89, 96, 99, 101, 105, 106, 107, 114, 121, 122, 127, 134, 135, 137, 148, and 151.

Voted, That comrades of the Order not delegates be admitted to rear of sentinels.

A motion to admit friends not members was tabled

The Commander informed the Encampment that by his direction a telegram of greeting was sent to the Annual Encampment of the Department of Rhode Island, held one week before, and that the following telegram had been received in reply:—

“PROVIDENCE, R.I., Jan. 21, 1874.

“Little Rhody returns greeting, congratulating her Massachusetts comrades upon the peace the fathers of the old Bay State sought, and their sons fought for, and the largest liberty.

“EDWIN METCALF,
“*Dep't Commander.*”

The following telegram from Brattleboro, Vt., was then read:—

“Department of Vermont in encampment sends greeting with three times three, for Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

“W. G. VEAZEY,
“*Dep't Commander.*”

Voted, That the Commander be requested to respond, and the following reply was sent:—

“Congratulations received and submitted to Convention of three hundred delegates, and Commander requested to answer back, acknowledging your thoughtfulness and courtesy. A duty pleasant in the extreme, and I cheerfully comply. The Bay State will stand shoulder to shoulder with the Green Mountain boys in the Grand Army.”

The committee appointed to hear the claim of Post 19, of this Department, to be entitled to four delegates in this meeting, reported unanimously as follows:—

“It seems that this case arises from an error in the reports of this Post for the fourth quarter, 1873. Your committee recommend that they be allowed to amend their reports, and that the delegates be admitted.”

Voted, To accept and adopt the report.

A majority of the same committee reported in reference to the case of Post 45, as follows :—

“Your committee find that the Commander has decided that the election was irregular and ordered a new election, and while a portion of the committee are of the opinion that *that* question is an open one, yet inasmuch as the Post acted in good faith and without intention of fraud, they recommend that Comrade C. H. Parsons, of Post 45, be admitted as a member to represent his Post.”

Signed by Comrades Emery, Hoyt, and Sherman.

The minority, Comrades Bailey and Blackmar, reported in favor of admitting Comrade Parsons without power to act.

A motion was made to amend the report of the committee in accordance with the minority report.

Comrade Babbitt moved the previous question, and the motion to amend was lost.

Voted, To admit Comrade Parsons.

Senior Vice-Commander Kimball, on behalf of the comrades of Post 19, invited the Encampment to a dinner at the American House.

Voted, That we adjourn at one o'clock, for the purpose of accepting the invitation.

Voted, That comrades desiring to smoke be allowed to retire.

Voted, That the various reports of the Department officers be accepted, and that one thousand copies of the Proceedings be printed for distribution.

A motion was made to proceed to election of officers.

Comrade Babbitt moved the previous question. *Carried*.

Voted, That a committee of five be appointed to receive, assort, and count votes, on a formal ballot for Commander. Comrades McCormic of 57, Bailey of 11, Dyer of 7, Scammell of 22, and Nash of 78, appointed.

Voted, That the alternate from Post 144 be allowed to vote in place of the delegate, who had retired.

Motion to reconsider. *Carried*.

Original motion renewed and lost.

Voted, That the committee appointed to receive, assort, and count votes for Commander act in that capacity for the election of the other officers.

Voted, That a committee of eleven be appointed to report a list of delegates and alternates to the National Encampment, and that the committee receiving ballots shall wait upon the committee of eleven to receive their votes for other officers.

The first ballot for Commander resulted as follows : —

Whole number of votes	274
Necessary for a choice	138
J. W. Kimball, of Post 19	126
Geo. S. Merrill, “ “ 39	79
W. H. Cundy, “ “ 7	44
J. A. Cunningham, “ “ 15	8
H. B. Sargent, “ “ 15	8
J. H. Barnes, “ “ 23	4
J. Silloway, Jr. “ “ 94	3
Brownell Granger, “ “ 26	2

And there was no choice.

Comrade Merrill thanked the comrades and withdrew his name. Comrade Cundy's name was withdrawn by Comrade Dyer, of Post 7.

Upon a second ballot Comrade Kimball received 211 of the 261 votes cast, and upon motion of Comrade Merrill his election was made unanimous.

Voted, That a committee of three be appointed to present the Commander elect.

Comrades Merrill of 39, Pope, Junior Vice-Commander, and Dyer of Post 7, appointed, and Comrade Kimball was presented and addressed the Encampment.

The following comrades were announced as the committee to bring in a list of delegates and alternates and members of Council of Administration: Emery of Post 26, Attwood of Post 113, Mallory of Post 79, Taylor of Post 13, Sherwin of Post 144, Whitney of Post 43, Patch of Post 142, Meech of Post 10, Dalton of Post 34.

Voted, That we proceed to ballot for Senior Vice-Commander.

The result of the ballot was as follows : —

Whole number of votes	220
Necessary for a choice	111
C. H. Taylor of Post 139	187
Edwin Earp “ 5	30
W. P. Drury “ 35	3

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Encampment, in the existing condition of the finances of the Department, it is inexpedient to defray the traveling or other expenses of the delegates to the National Encampment.

Carried.

Comrade Wilber of Post 97

Moved, That upon the death of a comrade each comrade in the Department be assessed five cents, the amount to be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Tabled.

Judge-Advocate Blackmar offered the following : —

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Encampment, that as the provision for the payment of State aid expires, by limitation, this year, the time for such payment should be extended.

Adopted.

Voted, To proceed to the election of Medical Director.

The result of the ballot was as follows : —

Whole number of votes		118
Necessary for a choice		60
George B. Cogswell of Post 52		76
William Woods	“ “ 7	19
Scattering		23

And Comrade Cogswell was declared elected.

Voted, That Article III., of the Department By-Laws be amended so as to read “There shall be a meeting of the Council of Administration at Department Headquarters on such a day of each month and at such an hour as they may determine.”

The following was offered by Comrade Richardson, of Post 42 : —

Resolved, That the thanks of this Department, as represented in this Encampment, be and hereby are extended to the Department officers for the year 1873, for the able and efficient manner in which they have performed their duties.

Carried.

A ballot for Chaplain resulted in the unanimous re-election of Comrade George S. Ball of Post 22.

Voted, To adjourn until 2.30 P.M.

JANUARY 22. — AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Encampment was called to order, and the following resolution, offered by Comrade G. M. Atwood, of Post 40, at the dinner at the American House, and unanimously adopted at that time, was ratified by the Encampment in executive session:—

Resolved, That the sincere and cordial thanks of the Department Encampment is due, and are hereby tendered, to the members of E. V. Sumner Post 19, Grand Army of the Republic, of Fitchburg, for the cordial and generous hospitality which they have extended to the members of the Department Encampment. Also to the citizens of Fitchburg, for the attention and kindness which they have manifested towards us during the session.

Resolved, That the Assistant Adjutant-General be requested to publish these resolutions in the Fitchburg papers, and forward an official copy to Post 19, Grand Army of the Republic, of Fitchburg.

At this time a circular, of which the following is a copy, was read by the Commander:—

WORCESTER, Aug. 18, 1873.

Comrade: The project of assembling in one Grand Encampment, for one, two, or three days, all Massachusetts soldiers who served in the late War of the Rebellion, has been somewhat agitated of late, and as far as known been favorably received. The State grounds at South Framingham, and some time in the summer of 1874, have been suggested as the time and place for gathering. A meeting under such circumstances would carry joy to many a heart. No one could fail of receiving pleasure from such a reunion. At a late meeting of the Thirty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry Regimental Association, the undersigned were appointed a committee, with instructions to correspond with the various organizations of Veterans throughout the State, with a view to secure the adoption of the project.

Will you give it consideration, and communicate to the undersigned your views after consultation with such comrades as you can conveniently meet. It is proposed, should the idea be favorably entertained, to call a meeting of all interested, at an early day, at some central and convenient place, with a view to adopting a plan in furtherance of the object.

Please address Gen. WILLIAM S. LINCOLN, Worcester, Mass.

Very respectfully yours,

WILLIAM S. LINCOLN,
A. D. PRATT,
C. W. ELWELL,
H. BACON,
R. J. HAMILTON,

Committee 34th Mass. Infantry Association.

Comrade Denny, of Post 113, offered the following resolution, which was adopted by a rising vote :—

Resolved, That this Encampment hereby endorses and approves the recommendations of the circular issued by the Committee of the Thirty-fourth Massachusetts Regimental Association, favorable to a general Encampment of the old Massachusetts regiments, at such time and place as may be agreed upon; and this Encampment advises that such general Encampment include the sailors and marines serving during the war from Massachusetts, or who may now reside in Massachusetts, and that all soldiers now in Massachusetts, who served in regiments of other States, and all Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic in this Department, be included in those invited to join in such general Encampment.

Comrade Emery, chairman of committee to report a list of nominations for Council of Administration and delegates and alternates to the National Encampment, submitted the following :—

FOR COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

J. P. Maxfield	of Post	42
H. E. Hill	“ “	139
J. H. Barnes	“ “	23
G. H. Patch	“ “	142
H. S. Briggs	“ “	98

The following were the list of delegates and alternates to the National Encampment :—

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.		ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.	
A. B. Underwood,	Post 62	F. J. Daniels,	Post 144
DELEGATES.		ALTERNATES.	
Geo. S. Merrill,	Post 39	Brownell Granger,	Post 26
C. F. Luther,	“ 79	H. C. Lee,	“ 113
W. S. Greenough,	“ 12	M. J. Ferren,	“ 75
C. E. Sperry,	“ 55	J. G. B. Adams,	“ 5
J. Pickett,	“ 10	E. B. Macy,	“ 19
E. B. Blasland,	“ 125	W. F. Draper,	“ 22
C. A. Campbell,	“ 35	J. F. Searles,	“ 24
E. P. Morton,	“ 61	C. B. Fox,	“ 68
J. W. Bigelow,	“ 37	G. H. Hoyt,	“ 123
G. H. Prior,	“ 56	D. G. Macnamara,	“ 15
G. R. Kelso,	“ 11	C. H. Parsons,	“ 45

Voted, To accept the report, and that the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to cast one ballot upon which the names reported should be entered, as the vote of the Encampment, and they were unanimously elected.

The following resolution was offered by Comrade Emery, of Post 26 : —

Resolved, That the delegates from this Department to the National Encampment be instructed to use their best endeavors to obtain the following changes in the Rules and Regulations : —

“ Chapter IV., Article IV., Section 6, after the words ‘ If a comrade shall be one year in arrears,’ to add ‘ his name shall be presented to the Post of which he is a member, and unless in the judgment of the Post there is some reasonable excuse for his delinquency.’ Also, after the words, ‘ at a regular meeting upon payment of dues to the time of his being dropped,’ to add, ‘ provided, however, that the dues may be remitted, if, in the opinion of the Post, the interests of the Order will be promoted by so doing.’ ”

Voted, To instruct the delegates to urge, and obtain if possible, a reduction of dues to National Headquarters.

Voted, That the place of holding the next Encampment be left with the Council of Administration.

The following resolution, offered by the Assistant Adjutant-General, was adopted unanimously : —

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment be and are hereby tendered to the Officer-of-the-Day, Comrade C. H. Wyman, to the Officer-of-the-Guard, Comrade Edward Bradbury, and to the four Sentinels of this Encampment, for the able, efficient, and courteous manner in which they have performed their duties.

A resolution of thanks to the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg, and to the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad Companies for their kindness in furnishing free return tickets to the delegates was adopted unanimously, and the Assistant Adjutant-General instructed to forward the same.

Comrade Macy, of Post 19, announced that the Masonic Hall would be open for the remainder of the day for the inspection of visiting comrades.

The closing business of the day consisted of the installation of the Department officers elect by Commander Underwood, with the exception of Medical Director and Comrade Briggs, of the Council, who were absent.

Commander Kimball and Comrade Underwood each addressed the Encampment briefly, after which three cheers for each, and three for Post 19, were given.

Voted, To adjourn.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1873.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 4. }
 BOSTON, Jan. 16, 1873. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 1. }

I. Having been elected by the Comrades of this Department, in Convention assembled, as Commander for the ensuing year, and having been duly installed, I hereby announce that I now enter upon the duties of the office.

II. Comrade Henry B. Peirce is hereby appointed Assistant Adjutant-General, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Appointments of other officers of the Staff will be announced in future orders.

III. The office hours of the Assistant Adjutant-General will continue to be as heretofore, from 10 to 12 and from 2 to 4, except Saturday afternoons, when the office will be closed.

* * * * *

Official:

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. B. UNDERWOOD,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 8, }
 BOSTON, Feb. 19, 1873. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 2. }

I. The following Comrades are announced upon the Staff of the Commander, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

W. S. Greenough of Post 12, Wakefield, Assistant Quartermaster-General.

E. B. Blasland of Post 125, South Boston, Inspector.

W. W. Blackmar of Post 113, Boston, Judge Advocate.

Thomas Sherwin of Post 144, Dedham, Aide-de-Camp.

Horace N. Fisher of Post 143, Brookline, “

Frank H. Graves of Post 62, Newton, “

Geo. F. Thompson of Post 10, Worcester, “

Gilman A. Andrews of Post 34, Salem, “

Sam'l F. Seabury of Post 15, Boston, “

F. Edward Gray of Post 16, Springfield, “

Geo. T. Childs of Post 11, Charlestown, Chief Mustering Officer.

* * * * *

V. Posts that have not received the new countersign can do so by applying at these Headquarters, through some comrade authorized by them to receive it, and provided with written authority, signed by the Post Commander and Adjutant.

* * * * *

VI. The Commander desires a complete Surgeon's report from each Post in the Department, at the close of the present year, and for that purpose directs the several Post Commanders to secure the necessary statistics meantime.

* * * * *

By order of

A. B. UNDERWOOD,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
366 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 8, }
BOSTON, April 10, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3. }

I. The following-named Comrades are hereby appointed Assistant Inspectors for the Districts named, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

District No. 1: Brownell Granger, Boston Highlands. Posts 7, 15, 23, 113, 125, 134.

District No. 2: James M. Johnston, South Boston. Posts 26, 30, 32, 68, 138, 143.

District No. 3: Samuel M. Weale, East Boston. Posts 4, 11, 35, 94, 144, 149.

District No. 4: T. J. Buffum, Somerville. Posts 56, 57, 66, 119, 139, 148.

District No. 5: Thomas Swazey, Jr., Marblehead. Posts 34, 82, 89, 90, 118, 132.

District No. 6: C. B. Baldwin, Melrose. Posts 5, 12, 33, 75, 95.

District No. 7: W. B. C. Emerson, Newton. Posts 6, 14, 22, 29, 81, 142.

District No. 8: Jeremiah Looby, East Abington. Posts 8, 13, 73, 74, 76, 78, 124.

District No. 9: P. N. Sprague, Hingham. Posts 40, 58, 87, 88, 112.

District No. 10: J. Silloway, Jr., Canton. Posts 52, 72, 91, 110, 121, 145, 147.

District No. 11: Franklin Jacobs, West Scituate. Posts 83, 104, 111, 127.

District No. 12: A. M. Tilton, Haverhill. Posts 49, 101, 108, 114, 122.

District No. 13: John A. G. Richardson, Lowell. Posts 39, 42, 45, 47, 67, 102, 106.

District No. 14: Fred S. Gifford, New Bedford. Posts 1, 2, 3, 46, 55, 129, 133, 141, 146.

District No. 15: Geo. H. Patch, South Framingham. Posts 18, 21, 43, 62, 63.

District No. 16: Henry Parsons, Marlboro. Posts 9, 48, 54, 59, 64, 86, 96, 135.

District No. 17: A. M. Parker and Jas. F. Meech, Worcester. Posts 10, 24, 27, 28, 60, 61, 77, 99, 107, 131, 136.

District No. 18: Will. H. Scammell, Milford. Posts 20, 25, 70, 105, 117.

District No. 19: Edw. B. Macy, Fitchburg. Posts 19, 31, 50, 53, 69, 109, 116, 123.

District No. 20: J. W. Bigelow, Spencer. Posts 37, 38, 51, 65, 85, 100, 140.

District No. 21: A. O. Kinney, Chicopee. Posts 16, 41, 71, 80, 103.
 District No. 22: G. C. Clapp, Northampton. Posts 17, 36, 44, 84,
 93, 97, 120.

District No. 23: Herbert C. Joyner, Gt. Barrington. Posts 79,
 98, 115, 126, 130, 137.

* * * * *

III. The Commander desires to know the amount of money received by each Post in the Department, as an appropriation by the several cities and towns wherein they are located, to defray the expenses of the coming Memorial Day.

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. B. UNDERWOOD,
Commander.

* * * * *

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }
 BOSTON, June 2, 1873.
 GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 5. }

I. Until further orders, the Headquarters of this Department will be as above.

II. The great fire which occurred in this city on Memorial Day destroyed all of the books and papers pertaining to the Assistant Adjutant-General's Department; and Post Commanders are requested to ascertain at once their indebtedness for books, blanks and badges, and to promptly remit the amount; also to notify express companies holding C.O.D. bills of the above change in location.

III. The books and blanks necessary for use of Posts will be replaced at the earliest possible moment, and Post Commanders will duplicate all communications and requisitions remaining unanswered.

IV. Post Commanders are reminded of the necessity of prompt action on their part, in the matter of adjutant's and quartermaster's reports, which will be due July 1st; and the Commander trusts that they will examine the same with more than usual care, to see that they are correct. It will also be necessary for Post Commanders at the same time to forward duplicate copies of the Adjutant's report for first quarter, 1873, to replace those destroyed by the fire.

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A. B. UNDERWOOD,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }
 BOSTON, June 18, 1873.
 GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 6. }

I. It should be understood that all orders of previous Commanders remain in force until superseded by contrary orders.

Particular attention is called to a portion of Paragraph III., G.O. No. 2, series of 1868, repeated in Paragraph 2, G.O. No. 2, series of 1869, as follows:—

“All communications from the several Posts to Department Headquarters should be written upon paper of the ordinary letter size, addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General, and signed by the Post Commander or senior officer present.”

Also part of Paragraph 2, G.O. No. 4, series of 1872:—

“Communications from Posts to Department Headquarters should always be signed by Post Commanders.”

* * * * *

III. An electroplate of the cut which appears in this order, with mortise for No. of Post (in place of “Dept. of Mass.”), will be furnished Posts at \$1.75 each.

By order of

A. B. UNDERWOOD,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }
BOSTON, Oct. 20, 1873.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

I. Comrade J. W. Hastings of Post 65 has been appointed Aide-de-Camp upon the Staff of the Commander. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. Comrade John A. Mackie of Post 125 is hereby announced as Assistant Inspector of District No. 2, vice Johnson, resigned. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

* * * * *

IV. Particular attention is called to Paragraph 4, G.O. No. 7, C. S., National Headquarters, which accompanies this order. Posts will be required to forward with their Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports for the fourth quarter a Surgeon's report, giving number of wounded members, nature of wounds, etc.; failing to do this, they will be considered as in arrears for reports and not entitled to representation in the Department Encampment. Realizing that the larger Posts cannot comply with the above at short notice, the Commander suggests that steps be taken at once for the collection of the necessary information, and that notice be sent to each member, asking an immediate answer, stating, if wounded, nature of wound.

V. The Commander desires that all applications for aid hereafter received by Posts, from traveling soldiers, be reported at once to these Headquarters, giving a brief history of the case. By this course the Posts may be saved from much of the imposition which has heretofore been practiced upon them.

By order of

A. B. UNDERWOOD,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 9. }

BOSTON, Dec. 8, 1873.

I. Comrade J. G. B. Adams, of Post 5, is hereby announced as Chief Mustering Officer of this Department, vice Comrade Childs, whose resignation, because of his removal from the State, is reluctantly accepted. The Commander feels that no words of his can add to the high regard and esteem in which Comrade Childs is held by the comrades of this Department. To ability and fidelity he has added zeal and earnestness, always active and ever working for the highest interests of our Order.

II. Another year is drawing toward its close and the Commander is anxious to make a good report of the condition and prospects of the Grand Army in his Department. A few of the Posts are in arrears for reports and dues; but it is to be hoped that they will forward the same without further delay and be in good standing at the beginning of the new year. Post Commanders will be required to forward, before Jan. 10, 1874, the Adjutant's, Quartermaster's, and Surgeon's reports, together with all dues and a list of delegates and alternates to the Department Encampment, who must be elected at the last stated meeting in December (same time and manner as Post officers); and the Adjutant's report must give the list of Post Officers elect.

III. The officers elected by the several Posts will be installed by the Chief Mustering Officer, or by comrades designated by him, at the first meeting succeeding their election. The Chief will be governed by the wishes of Posts in the selection of Mustering Officers, when practicable, but such requests must be made immediately; where no Comrade is assigned, the duty will be performed by the Senior Past Post Commander present.

* * * * *

V. Commanders of Posts that have not been visited by an Assistant Inspector during the present quarter, or have not received notice of such intended visit, will notify this office at once.

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By order of

A. B. UNDERWOOD, }
 Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 10. }

BOSTON, Dec. 29, 1873.

I. The Annual Encampment of this Department will be held in the hall of E. V. Sumner Post 19, Fitchburg, on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1874, for the election of Department officers and such other business as may come before it. In accordance with suggestions made at the last Encampment, the meeting will be called to order at 7 o'clock P.M., to enable the Encampment to organize and, if it so decides, to transact its routine business, leaving the election and installation of officers and

other important matters for the day following. The Commander thinks that this plan will probably meet with the approval of all the delegates, especially as Post 19 is making arrangements to entertain the visiting comrades on the evening of the 21st.

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations, Posts will be entitled to representation in the ratio of one delegate for every fifty members reported in good standing, with one additional member for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to choose at least one member. Post Commanders are members by virtue of their office.

II. Arrangements have been made with the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg, Mansfield and Framingham, New Bedford and Taunton, Framingham and Lowell, and Vermont and Mass. R.R. Co.'s, by which free return tickets will be issued to the delegates upon application to the Assistant Quartermaster-General, in the Encampment.

III. The Commander of Post 19 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and a sufficient number of Sentinels, for duty during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General at 6.30 p. m. on the 21st prox., for instructions.

IV. Post Commanders are reminded that it is their duty to forward all reports (Adjutant's, Quartermaster's and Surgeon's), and that such reports, together with all dues, and a list of the delegates and alternates, must be in the hands of the Assistant Adjutant-General before the 10th prox., in order to secure representation in the Encampment.

V. The following-named comrades are designated as Mustering Officers and will install the officers of the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

Fred S. Gifford, 1, 146; G. H. Babbitt, Jr., 3, 55; C. B. Baldwin, 4, 12, 40; W. W. Robinson, 5; Geo. S. Ball, 6, 14, 22; J. H. Barnes, 7, 11; A. S. Trowbridge, 9; A. M. Parker, 10, 131; C. D. Nash, 13, 124; Brownell Granger, 15, 23; F. Edward Gray, 16, 103; G. H. Hoyt, 17, 123; G. H. Patch, 18, 43, 62, 63, 142; J. W. Kimball, 19, 53, 69; J. E. Fiske, 21; Chas. B. Fox, 26, 68; E. W. Toombs, 28, 59; G. H. Prior, 29, 56, 92; C. O. Welch, 30, 81, 139; E. B. Blasland, 32, 125; L. W. Osgood, 33, 75, 148; Wm. Spalding, 35, 149; G. M. Abbey, 36, 97; J. W. Bigelow, 37, 51; A. D. Ward, 38; Geo. S. Merrill, 39, 47; J. P. Maxfield, 42, 102; Geo. C. Clapp, 44, 150; B. F. Cook, 45, 67; E. P. Bowen, 46, 129, 141; S. J. Spaulding, 49, 122; J. Silloway, Jr., 52, 91, 94; H. E. Hill, 57; G. R. Kelso, 66, 143; A. St. John Chambré, 70, 72; A. O. Kinney, 41, 71, 80; Jere. Looby, 73, 74, 78; W. McKay, 79, 126, 130; G. A. Andrews, 82, 89, 132; Geo. B. Oldham, 83, 111, 112, 127; Anson Withey, 84, 93, 120; J. T. Stevens, 87, 88; A. A. Carlton, 95, 118; H. S. Briggs, 98; F. H. Moore, 65, 100; D. J. Preston, 90; A. M. Tilton, 101, 108; P. N. Sprague, Jr., 104; P. C. Grover, 105, 117; H. C. Alden, 106, 110; W. W. Blackmar, 113; A. Smart, 114; Geo. H. Cutter, 119; Thos. Sherwin, 121, 144, 147; E. S. Horton, 133, 145; J. A. Mackie, 134, 138. The officers of Posts 34 and 58 will be installed by Chief Mustering Officer J. G. B. Adams.

VI. The foregoing arrangement has been made in order that the service may be rendered without expense to the Department. In case of the absence of the comrade designated above for any Post, and where no comrade has been assigned, the Senior Past Post Commander present will act.

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By order of

A. B. UNDERWOOD,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROSTER, DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS G.A.R., 1873.

ELECTED.

A. B. Underwood,	Newton,	Commander.
J. W. Kimball,	Fitchburg,	Senior Vice-Commander.
Lemuel Pope,	Wilmington,	Junior " "
D. D. Gilbert,	Dorchester,	Medical Director.
Geo. S. Ball,	Upton,	Chaplain.
William Woods,	Boston,	Council of Administration.
J. P. Maxfield,	Lowell,	" "
H. E. Hill,	Somerville,	" "
Henry Wilson, Jr.,	Chelsea,	" "
Geo. H. Hoyt,	Athol,	" "

DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Delegates.

Henry R. Sibley (at large)	.	.	Charlestown.
Charles O. Welch,	Cambridge	Charles H. Chase,	Salem
Geo. S. Merrill,	Lawrence	G. A. Churchill,	Dorchester
A. M. Tilton,	Haverhill	W. H. Carney,	New Bedford
Henry B. Peirce,	Abington	Geo. T. Childs,	Charlestown
Luke Lyman,	Northampton	W. H. Cundy,	Boston
G. H. Babbit,	Taunton		

Alternates.

Wm. Cogswell (at large)	.	.	Salem.
J. Silloway, Jr.,	Canton	C. C. Emery,	Boston Highlands
S. J. Spaulding,	Newburyport	Thomas Sherwin,	Dedham
T. C. Webber,	Lowell	J. D. Cogswell,	Leicester
A. O. Kinney,	Chicopee	E. B. Blasland,	South Boston
W. S. B. Hopkins	Greenfield	Wm. Spalding,	Charlestown
D. H. Smith,	Attleboro		

APPOINTED.

Henry B. Peirce,	Abington,	Assistant Adjutant-General.
W. S. Greenough,	Wakefield,	" Quartermaster-Gen.
E. B. Blasland,	South Boston,	Inspector.
W. W. Blackmar,	Boston,	Judge Advocate.
Thomas Sherwin,	Dedham,	Aide-de-Camp.
Horace N. Fisher,	Brookline,	"
Frank H. Graves,	Newton,	"
Geo. F. Thompson,	Worcester,	"
Gilman A. Andrews,	Salem,	"
Samuel F. Seabury,	Boston,	"
F. Edw. Gray,	Springfield,	"
Geo. T. Childs,	Charlestown,	Chief Mustering Officer.

POSTS.

No.	Name of Post.	Commander.	Town.	Night of Meeting.
1	Wm. Logan Rodman,	Samuel C. Hart,	New Bedford,	Wednesday.
2	O. W. Peabody,	G. H. Sylvester,	Nantucket,	1st and 3d Sat.
3	W. H. Bartlett,	Chas. H. Orchard,	Taunton,	Tuesday.
4	U. S. Grant,	Alfred Hocking (P.O., 65, Washington St., Boston)	Melrose,	Alt. Tuesdays.
5	Gen. Lander,	Edwin A. Earp,	Lynn,	Thursday.
6	Powell T. Wyman,	A. E. Chamberlain,	Holliston,	Tuesday.
7	Chas. Russell Lowell,	W. H. Cundy (P.O., 29 Old State House, Boston)	Boston,	Friday.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Name of Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>Night of Meeting.</i>
8	E. W. Pierce,	J. M. Staples,	Middleboro,	Saturday.
9	Reno,	J. F. Dolan,	Hudson,	Wednesday.
10	Geo. H. Ward,	J. F. Meech,	Worcester,	Thursday.
11	Abraham Lincoln,	Wm. Spalding,	Charlestown,	Tuesday.
12	Warren,	Austin E. Perry,	Wakefield,	2d and 4th Mon.
13	Fletcher Webster,	Geo. M. Skinner,	N. Bridgewater,	Wednesday.
14	Lieut. C. C. Phillips,	T. N. Drawbridge,	Hopkinton,	Monday.
15	J. A. Andrew,	D. G. McNamara (P.O., Custom House, Boston)	Boston,	Friday.
16	E. K. Wilcox,	Elijah A. Newell,	Springfield,	Wednesday.
17	Gen. Sedgwick,	H. H. Hunt,	Orange,	Friday.
18	Col. Prescott,	A. A. Coburn,	Ashland,	Wednesday.
19	E. V. Sumner,	R. O. Houghton,	Fitchburg,	Tuesday.
20	Getchell,	L. T. Gaskill,	Blackstone,	Alt. Mondays.
21	Abbott,	J. E. Fiske (P.O., Grantville)	Needham,	1st Saturday.
22	Maj. E. F. Fletcher,	P. C. H. Belcher,	Milford,	Wednesday.
23	Jos. Hooker,	Phillip W. Golliff,	East Boston,	Tuesday.
24	A. B. R. Sprague,	James Gleason,	Grafton,	2d and last Mon.
25		A. J. Searles,	Uxbridge,	1st and 3d Tues.
26	Thos. G. Stevenson,	C. C. Emery,	Boston Highlands,	Monday.
27	Chas. Devens, Jr.,	W. S. Forrest,	Oxford,	Tuesday.
28	Geo. D. Wells,	M. E. Walker,	West Boylston,	Alt. Mondays.
29	F. P. H. Rogers,	Chas. A. Hall,	Waltham,	2d and 4th Tues.
30	Wm. H. Smart,	Geo. F. Johnson (P.O., 45 No. Russell St., Boston)	Cambridgeport,	Thursday.
31	S. A. Taylor,		Ashburnham.	
32	Washington,	Grant Learned (P.O., 24 Mercer St.)	So. Boston,	Monday.
33	Burbank,	Chas. K. Conn (P.O., 42 Portland St., Boston)	Woburn,	Thursday.
34	Phil. H. Sheridan,	John W. Hart,	Salem,	Tuesday.
35	Theo. Winthrop,	John Perry,	Chelsea,	Each Friday ex- cept 3d.
36	E. M. Stanton,	J. L. Skinner,	Amherst,	1st and 3d Tues.
37	F. A. Stearns,	John W. Bigelow,	Spencer,	1st and 3d Thurs.
38	Dexter,	A. P. Goodell,	Brookfield,	1st and 3d Tues.
39	Needham,	S. C. Parsons,	Lawrence,	Wednesday.
40	Lincoln,	J. H. Pratt,	N. Weymouth,	1st and 3d Mon.
41	Lyon,	P. Soloman,	Westfield,	2d and 4th Tues.
42	Benj. F. Butler,	T. C. Webber,	Lowell,	Thursday.
43	J. A. Rawlins,	E. C. Whitney,	Marlboro,	Tuesday.
44	Wm. L. Baker,	Luke Lyman,	Northampton,	1st Friday
45	Col. Allen,	Richard Eddy,	Gloucester,	Thursday.
46	Richard Borden,	Frank McGraw,	Fall River,	Tuesday.
47	Major Howe,	J. N. Ellsworth, Jr.,	Haverhill,	Tuesday.
48	Geo. S. Boutwell,	Chas. W. Hathaway,	Ayer,	2d and 4th Thurs.
49	A. W. Bartlett,	Phillip C. Mason (P.O., Amesbury)	Newburyport,	Friday.
50	Dennison S. Kimball,	J. M. Campbell (P.O. Townsend Harbor)	Townsend,	Alt. Fridays.
51	Ezra Batcheller,	C. H. Deyo,	N. Brookfield,	2d and 4th Thurs.
52	A. B. Randall,	Wm. Lathrop,	N. Easton,	2d and last Mon.
53	C. H. Stevens,	Clesson Kenney,	Leominster,	Last Thursday.
54	John B. Gough,	R. C. Sawyer,	Berlin,	Alt. Fridays.
55	Isaac Dean Paul,	Lemuel C. Porter (P.O. Box, 492)	Taunton,	Monday.
56	Chas. Beck,	Geo. H. Prior (P.O. 1124, Boston)	Cambridge,	Monday.
57	P. Stearns Davis,	Chas. O. Welch (P.O., 116 Tremont St., Boston)	E. Cambridge,	Wednesday.
58	Reynolds,	Jas. L. Bates (P.O., 3 Devonshire St., Boston)	Weymouth,	Alt. Tuesdays.
59	Maj. J. A. Pratt,	J. W. Kendall,	Sterling,	1st and 3d Thurs.
60	Jesse L. Reno,	H. W. Butler,	Whitinsville,	4th Monday.
61	Nathaniel Lyon,	E. P. Morton,	Webster,	2d and 4th Fri. 1st and 2d Thurs. October to April.
62	Chas. Ward,	Hosea Hyde,	Newton,	2d Thurs., April to October.
63	Gen. Wadsworth,	R. T. Nash,	Natick,	Tuesday.

No.	Name of Post.	Commander.	Town.	Night of Meeting
64	E. D. Baker,	Wm. J. Coulter,	Clinton,	2d and 4th Wed
65	Clara Barton,	F. H. Moore,	Warren,	1st Wednesday.
66	S. C. Lawrence,	John S. Beck,	Medford,	1st and 3d Mon
67	Allen,	J. L. Eaton,	Manchester,	Wednesday.
68	Benj. Stone, Jr.,	G. A. Churchill (P.O., 122 Washington St.)	Boston (Dorchester),	1st Friday.
69	Jos. E. Rice,	A. B. Holden,	Westminster,	Alternate Sat.
70	Phil. Kearney,	L. R. Whitaker,	Franklin,	1st and 3d Tues
71	Kilpatrick,	A. N. Ricker,	Holyoke,	Tuesday.
72	A. St. John Chabre,	Lysander Wood,	Stoughton,	1st and 3d Tues.
73	McPherson,	M. N. Arnold (P.O. Abington)	Abington,	Wednesday.
74	Hartsuff,	Henry Damon,	East Abington,	2d and 4th Mon
75	J. P. Gould,	M. J. Ferren,	Stoucham,	Tuesday.
76	Collingwood,	Chas. E. Barnes,	Plymouth,	1st and 3d Wed.
77	Theron E. Hall,	Alfred Chaffin,	Holden,	1st Saturday.
78	David A. Russell,	Chas. D. Nash,	So. Abington,	Tue-day.
79	Chas. D. Sanford,	C. F. Luther,	No. Adams,	Friday.
80	Joseph Miller,	F. D. Gleason,	So. Hadley,	Alternate Sat.
81	Isaac B. Patten,	C. T. Perkins,	Watertown,	1st and 3d Fri.
82	John Goodwin, Jr.,	F. A. Osgood,	Marblehead,	Thursday.
83	Jos. E. Wilder,	M. V. Bonney (P.O. West Hanover)	Hanover,	Last Tuesday.
84	Myron E. Stowell,	Chas. Stowell,	So. Deerfield,	Alternate Sat.
85	J. W. Lawton,	H. M. Coney,	Ware,	2d and 4th Wed.
86	Henry Wilson,	H. K. Martin,	Maynard,	Alternate Wed.
87	Gen. S. Thayer,	Abijah Allen,	Braintree,	1st Friday.
88	Paul Revere,	J. P. Jordan (P.O. Wollaston Hights)	Quincy,	1st and 3d Tues.
89	J. H. Chipman,	F. A. Wallace,	Beverly,	Thursday.
90	Ward,	J. W. Bernard,	Danvers,	Monday.
91	E. P. Carpenter,	A. W. Belcher,	Foxboro,	2d and 4th Thurs
92				
93	Ozro Miller,	G. R. Peirce,	Shelbourne Falls,	1st Tuesday.
94	Revere,	John Hall,	Canton,	Last Thursday.
95	E. W. Hincks,	Chas. S. Hincks (P.O. Saugus Centre)	Saugus,	Monday.
96		Henry Kinney,	Northboro,	1st Monday.
97	E. J. Griggs,	Geo. M. Abbey (P.O. Box 82)	Belchertown,	Monday nearest full moon.
98	W. W. Rockwell,	W. T. C. Colt,	Pittsfield,	1st and 3d Mon.
99	I. D. Minch,		Princeton.	
100				
101		N. E. Ladd,	Groveland,	Thursday.
102	J. Cushing Edmands,	F. Jaquith, Jr.,	Billerica,	Last Saturday.
103	Otis Chapman,	A. O. Kinney,	Chicopee,	Thursday.
104	Edwin Humphrey,	P. N. Sprague (P.O. Hingham Centre)	Hingham,	1st and 3d Thurs
105	Wilder Dwight,	G. R. Drake,	West Medway,	1st and 3d Thurs
106	Otis W. Wallace,	Wm. Wingwood, Jr.,	Rockport,	1st and 3d Sat.
107	Burnside,	L. Woodward,	Hubbardston,	Alternate Tues.
108	Everett Peabody,	J. G. Scates,	Georgetown,	2d and last Tues
109	Ericsson,	M. V. B. Grimes,	East Templeton,	Last Friday.
110	Horace Niles,	R. W. Thayer,	Randolph,	1st and 3d Fri.
111	Jos. E. Simons,	H. C. Sampson (P.O. Pembroke)	Duxbury,	1st and 3d Sat.
112	D. Willard Robinson,	Franklin Jacobs (P.O., West Scituate)	So. Scituate,	Last Monday.
113	E. W. Kinsley,	A. N. Sampson (366 Washington St., Room 8)	Boston,	2d Wednesday.
114	C. R. Mudge,	Ezra Hale,	West Amesbury,	1st and 2d Wed.
115	Buford,		Lee.	
116	D. G. Farragut,	E. J. Cushing,	So. Gardner,	Wednesday.
117		P. C. Grover,	Medford,	2d and last Sat.
118	Gen. James L. Bates,	Geo. H. Hobby,	Swampscott,	Monday.
119				
120	Edwin E. Day,	E. A. Hall,	Greenfield,	1st and 3d Fri.
121	H. A. Darling,	Sylvanus Cobb, Jr.,	Hyde Park,	1st Friday.
122	E. P. Wallace,	Dudley E. Gale,	Amesbury,	Wednesday.
123	Parker,	Geo. H. Hoyt,	Athol,	Thursday.
124	J. Dimick,	F. M. Kingman,	East Bridgewater,	1st Thursday.
125	N. B. Shurtleff, Jr.,	E. B. Blasland (P.O., 377 Fourth St.)	So. Boston,	Wednesday.
126	Geo. E. Sayles,	Henry Sheldon,	Adams,	Saturday.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Name of Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>Night of Meeting.</i>
127	Theo. L. Bonney,	Thomas Drew,	Hanson,	1st Monday.
128	Ryder,	James A. Small,	Provincetown.	
129	Swift,	L. B. Hodges,	Somerset,	1st Wednesday.
130	E. P. Hopkins,	F. N. Foote,	Williamstown,	1st Saturday.
131	Geo. H. Thomas,	George Mann,	Leicester,	2d and 4th Tues.
132		P. L. Winchester, Jr.,	Peabody,	Monday.
133	Prentiss M. Whiting,	Barney Laughlin,	N. Attleboro,	1st Friday.
134	Robert A. Bell,	J. H. Mandluff (P.O., 78 Phillips St.,)	Boston,	Thursday.
135	Capt. Isaac Davis,	Lemuel Pope (P.O., 7 Doane St., Room 9)	Acton,	Alt. Saturdays.
136	Maj. G. C. Marshall,	S. D. Taylor,	Rutland,	Last Saturday.
137			Great Barrington.	
138		Wm. Washburn, Jr. (P.O., 17 West Newton St.)	Boston,	Thursday.
139	Willard C. Kinsley,	J. H. Dusseault (P.O., Winter Hill)	Somerville,	1st, 2d and 3d Wednesday.
140	J. Arthur Johnson,	Lyman E. Weeks,	Sturbridge,	Alt. Mondays.
141	Jesse A. Gove,	F. C. Negus,	Fall River,	Friday.
142	D. B. Eames,	A. M. Eames,	S. Framingham,	Saturday.
143	Chas. L. Chandler,	H. N. Fisher,	Brookline,	Alt. Fridays.
144	Chas. W. Carroll,	H. C. Bonney,	Dedham,	2d and 4th Fri.
145	Wm. A. Streeter,	E. S. Horton,	Attleboro,	2d and 4th Mon.
146	Robert G. Shaw,	R. W. Oliver,	New Bedford,	3d Thursday.
147	Edward Everett,	Chas. B. Dexter,	Norwood,	1st and 3d Thurs.
148	A. D. Weld,	J. T. Wilson,	Winchester,	Wednesday.
149	Maj. Geo. L. Stearns,	J. F. Finley,	Charlestown,	Friday.



JOHN W. KIMBALL,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1874.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT SALEM

1875.

JANUARY 20. — EVENING SESSION.

THE Encampment was called to order at 7 o'clock, by Commander Kimball, all of the Department officers being present except the Medical Director, Comrade Geo. B. Cogswell, and Comrades Patch and Briggs, of the Council of Administration.

The roll was called, and 221 comrades, representing 88 Posts, answered to their names.

Prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Comrade Geo. S. Ball.

Voted, To admit comrades not members of the Encampment to seats in rear of the hall, without power to act.

The Commander informed the Encampment that in response to an invitation, the Commander-in-Chief, with several members of his Staff, was in the city for the purpose of attending this meeting; and on motion of Comrade H. Wilson, Jr., of Post 35, it was

Voted, That a committee of five comrades be appointed to wait upon the Commander-in-Chief and request his presence.

The Commander appointed Comrade Wilson, Commander Dalton, of Post 34, Past Department Commanders Cogswell and Underwood, and Comrade Geo. S. Merrill, of Post 39. That committee attended to their duty, and the Commander-in-Chief, accompanied by Adjutant-General Sibley and Aides-de-Camp Geo. T. Childs, Josiah Pickett, and P. F. Murray, entered the hall, were duly presented, and escorted to the platform. Comrade Devens addressed the Encampment at some length, his eloquent remarks being received with great favor and applause.

He congratulated the Department upon its flourishing condition, and spoke flatteringly of the future prospects of the Order in other Departments.

After which followed the address of the Commander and reports of Department officers, in regular order.

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER KIMBALL.

Comrades:

The rapidly-moving wheels of time have again completed their circuit, and we are assembled in Annual Convention, to review the past, deliberate for the good of our noble Order, and to plan and arrange for the future.

I congratulate you upon the large attendance here, which evinces a deep and earnest interest in and continued desire to further promote the welfare and prosperity of the Grand Army of the Republic. Guided by the experience of the past, let us strive to avoid the errors and mistakes which may have been committed, and labor for the best good of all. Let us, in all our acts, preserve toward each other that fraternity of feeling which binds us together as comrades. May harmony prevail, so that, whatever may be the result of our deliberations today, we will, at its close, stand as one man, determined to do all in our power to perpetuate and carry out more fully than ever before the great and grand principles of our association.

Let us, if it need be, re-affirm our loyalty to the country and flag which we, through dangers, sufferings, and great sacrifices, helped to preserve in the past and have sworn to defend in the future.

The year just closed has been one of prosperity and hope to this Department. Nothing has occurred to create an unusual expenditure of funds for the relief of the needy and destitute. The demands for assistance have not materially increased, although the depressed condition of the business of the country led us to anticipate a very largely increased demand for charity. This is a pleasing fact, for it indicates a determination among the soldiers and their dependents to support themselves so far as they can by their own exertions.

It gives me pleasure to say, that, by reports from different Posts, I believe the liberal hand has been outstretched to all the needy and destitute of our Grand Army. The widows and orphans of our comrades, mustered out, have been kindly cared for, and their wants supplied. The sick and disabled soldier, whether of our Order or not, if worthy, has not been passed by, but has received all the assistance in our power to bestow.

Receiving this Department in splendid condition from the worthy and scarred comrade who preceded me, it has been my aim and pride to maintain its standing and efficiency, and to transmit it to my successor in as equally flourishing a condition if possible.

The membership is not materially changed from last year, being decreased by loss of five hundred and seventy-four members (one hundred and eight of these by death), from all causes. This decrease is principally, and I believe almost entirely attributable to the fact that Posts have lived up to and more strictly enforced the rule relative to the suspension and dropping of members for the non-payment of dues; this is right, and I commend the Posts for so doing, as it places us in a more healthy and reliable condition for the future.

Our Commander, one year ago, said, "We cannot expect our numbers to be largely augmented for the future," or, in other words, that this Department had reached its maximum number, "and we could only hold our own as long as natural causes would permit." I did not think it true then; I am unwilling to believe it true now, and yet it is undoubtedly true, unless we renew our exertions and use all our influence to increase our membership. Comrades, let us not be content with what we have done, and are now doing; with probably not less than *thirty* thousand veterans, honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, in this Department, we should not be satisfied with a membership in the Grand Army of only one-third that number. No, let us plant our standard at high-water mark, and not rest in our endeavors, while an honorable and worthy veteran, be he sailor or soldier, remains outside our lines.

It is for our interest to do so in every point of view. It will lessen our burdens, it will increase our capacity for doing good, it will bring within our reach and care thousands who need our assistance, whom we know nothing of today; it will encourage the comrades of other Departments to redouble their efforts; and last, but not least, it will tend to keep alive and to strengthen that loyalty to country which binds us together now and which carried us all into the service to save her from destruction and the dear old flag from dishonor.

Now is the time for action, today let us begin the work: we have no time to lose, for the ranks of the soldiers from whence come our recruits are diminishing in numbers by death as rapidly as our own.

In a very few years the Grand Army of the Republic, from natural causes alone, must necessarily become less, and continue to decrease until all shall have passed away; and when that time comes, when the last Post is disbanded and its sentinel withdrawn to join his comrades on the other side, then, and not till then, will the great work of the Grand Army be accomplished.

The veterans of the late war are being rapidly mustered out. In a few short years, there will be but here and there one left standing alone, like sentinels upon the outposts, guarding sacredly the honor and the memories of their late comrades, and keeping green the resting places of the loyal patriots of the great rebellion.

While the hand of the destroying angel has dealt leniently with us, yet he has been busy in our ranks, and comrades are falling day by day on every hand. I am pained to announce the death of Past Department Chaplain Miles Sanford, late of Post 79, of North Adams. He died suddenly and unexpectedly at Salem, N.Y., on the thirty-first day of October last. The disease from which he died was, no doubt, contracted in the service, where he was a brave, active, useful, and much-beloved comrade. His work here was well done, and he has gone to receive his reward. Peace to his ashes.

Comrade L. A. Tift, of my personal staff, died at Springfield, Mass., on the thirty-first day of August last, mourned and beloved by all who knew him. My personal acquaintance with him was short, yet of sufficient duration to develop to me the noble traits of his character and the purity of his daily life. I need pay no higher tribute to his memory than to say that he was, in every sense, a worthy member of the Grand Army, in which he took a deep and lively interest. A citizen, who stood high in the esteem of the people of the city in which he lived; and those who knew him best, loved him most.

It has lately come to the knowledge of the Commander that some Posts do not hold monthly meetings in accordance with the requirements of the Rules and Regulations; I can hardly conceive of circumstances being such as to render this course necessary or advisable, and it certainly cannot be permitted without a change in the Rules and Regulations. I commend this matter to the consideration of the Convention, with a view to a change in the Regulations to meet such cases, if, in your judgment, you should decide that the good of the Order demands it.

I trust, in the future, as in the past, that all political matters will be excluded from our association, for while I hold that each comrade has the full and indisputable right to speak his mind, advocate his political principles, and vote for whomsoever he prefers unquestioned, and without prejudice to the Order, yet this must be done entirely upon individual responsibility, totally and entirely disconnected from the Grand Army. And I believe, as I believe the teachings of Holy Writ, that if this Order is destroyed before its great work is accomplished, it will be by allowing political matters to come amongst us, which will create dissension and sow the seeds of death and dissolution. Guard, then, carefully and surely, the outposts, and allow no dangerous political influences to come within our lines.

The reports for the year ending Sept. 30, 1873, show, by the returns made to Headquarters, an expenditure of \$33,441.16 for charity. Amount at same time held by Posts in their Relief Funds, \$64,474.74.

For the year 1874, ending September 30, the returns show an expenditure of \$34,376.77, being an increase of \$935.61 over the previous year. Amount at same time in Relief Funds, held by Posts, \$72,601.29, being an increase of \$8,126.55 over last year.

As a proof of our fidelity to the great principle of charity, I have only to refer you to the report of Post 34, of Salem, which has, within the last quarter, expended for relief \$2,036.30. This splendid record is a practical exemplification of the Golden Rule, and the earnestness and sincerity of the comrades in their support of the grand principles of the Order.

The Headquarters of the Department have been continued in Boston, as heretofore, although at considerable inconvenience and expense to myself, for I felt that the interests of the Order would be better subserved there than by a removal into the country.

I found the Headquarters established in the Merchants Exchange, on State Street, a room having been taken there after the destruction of the old quarters, by fire, on the thirtieth of May, 1873. The room was small, dark, and entirely unfit for the purpose. (I presume this accounts somewhat for the small attendance at our Council meetings.)

It was decided to put up with the inconveniences of the place for awhile, as it was expected that we could return in a few months to the old site on Washington Street, as a building was then in the process of erection in which good quarters could be procured at a reasonable rent. I am happy to state that on the first of December the Headquarters were removed to 368 Washington Street, and located on the very spot from which we were driven eighteen months before by fire.

The room now occupied (which is also occupied by Post 113), is all that could be desired: large, convenient, well located, handsomely furnished, light, and very pleasant.

I congratulate my successor upon his prospects for the future in that direction. But more especially do I congratulate the Assistant Adjutant-General upon being brought from darkness to light; for, without a murmur, he has borne the discomforts of the old place, making *that* even cheerful to visiting comrades by his ever-smiling countenance and warm-hearted welcome.

I desire to express my great obligation to all the Department officers for the prompt and efficient manner in which their respective duties have been performed.

The reports of the various Departments and Staff officers, which will be submitted to you in detail, will show fully and concisely the condition of the Department, the amount of labor

performed, and the gratifying results which have attended their efforts, and also how earnestly and efficiently they have applied themselves to the duties assigned them.

I desire to thank those members of the Council of Administration who have been so constant in their attendance upon its meetings; they have labored earnestly and diligently for the good of the Order.

This labor has been performed by a few, as a portion of the Council were seldom present; and I am sorry to say one member has not, during the year, attended a meeting, been installed into office, or acknowledged the courtesy of the Assistant Adjutant-General in notifying him of his election.

The members of my personal staff will accept my thanks for the very able and courteous manner in which they have performed the arduous duties imposed on them. I know, comrades, you will not consider me invidious if I especially mention Comrade Blasland, Inspector of the Department. He has attended to his official duties most faithfully and promptly, and to my entire satisfaction. And, more especially, do I commend Comrade Peirce, the Assistant Adjutant-General. His entire time has been devoted to your interests.

Situated as I was, fifty miles from Headquarters, I relied implicitly upon him to look after the affairs at Headquarters, in my absence; and I have not for a moment found my confidence misplaced. I always found him at his post, his business in good order and perfectly understood. I have to make personal acknowledgments to him: and I do it here, publicly, with much pleasure; for he has relieved me from an immense amount of labor and responsibility, which I most fully appreciate. May his shadow never be less and the day far distant when this Department shall be deprived of the invaluable services of Comrade Henry B. Peirce, the Assistant Adjutant-General.

Finally, we are assembled for the purpose of selecting the comrades who shall administer the offices of this Department the coming year. In surrendering back to you the high trust you so generously bestowed upon me one year ago, I beg to say that I most deeply and sincerely appreciate the distinguished honor you then conferred by placing me at the head of this Department.

No comrade recognizes more fully than myself the grave defects and shortcomings of my administration, yet I trust you will believe me when I say that I have done the best I could, and have been faithful to the great trust reposed in me.

I shall, at the close of this Convention, lay aside the responsibilities of this office with feelings of relief and pleasure, knowing that you will have placed the burden upon some comrade more worthy and competent (though not more willing than I have been) to bear it, who will conduct your affairs successfully,

thereby improving and strengthening the Order throughout the Department.

I shall return to the ranks with a keener perception of my duties as a comrade, and endeavor, by increased efforts, to promote the interests of the Order, aid in the accomplishment of the objects for which we are banded together, and thus help to exemplify the great principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, the foundation stones of the Grand Army of the Republic.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Boston, January 20, 1875.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment:

I have the honor to submit the following report for the year 1874.

Number of Posts, December 31, 1873	147
Number of members, in good standing, appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1873	11,088
Number of Posts, December 31, 1874	141
Number of members in good standing, appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1874	10,541

The following charters have been surrendered or annulled during the year:—

Post 20	Blackstone.
“ 99	Princeton.
“ 138	Boston.
“ 140	Sturbridge.
“ 141	Fall River.
“ 147	Norwood.
“ 150	Erving.

Only one charter has been granted during the year, and that to Post 115, Groton.

Number of members admitted by muster	1,096
“ “ “ transfer	159
“ “ “ reinstatement	822
“ “ lost by death	108
“ “ “ dishonorable discharge	96
“ “ “ transfer	197
“ “ dropped from the rolls	1,761
“ “ honorably discharged	1
“ “ remaining suspended	1,081
Number of rejected applicants reported during the year,	21
The amount disbursed for relief purposes during the year, so far as reported, was	\$32,779.42

Number of comrades and their families aided . . .	732
Number of soldiers, not members, and families of deceased soldiers, aided	1,205

This report is for one hundred and thirty-seven Posts, the Post at Norwood having disbanded the last day of the year and forwarded their reports.

There are five Posts in arrears for reports, viz. : — *

Post 84, South Deerfield, for fourth quarter, 1874.

“ 119, Lexington, for fourth quarter, 1874.

“ 130, Williamstown, for third and fourth quarters, 1874.

“ 137, Great Barrington, for first, second, third, and fourth quarters, 1874.

“ 146, New Bedford, for second, third, and fourth quarters, 1874.

By the foregoing statistics it would appear that the Grand Army in Massachusetts has lost ground, so far as numbers are concerned, during the past year; this fact is due to the more general compliance, by many of the Posts, with that part of the Rules and Regulations which requires the non-paying members to be suspended and dropped, thus developing an element of strength rather than weakness, in that those who remain are earnest in their work and all contributing to the prosperity of their Posts.

Taking the same privilege which has been accorded me in previous years, I have a few words to say concerning Post Commanders and Adjutants, and the manner in which their work is performed. Our Rules require that all reports shall be forwarded by the Post Commander on the first day of each quarter; this is not always convenient, and the General Order calling for reports for last quarter and for the list of delegates extended the time to the ninth of the present month, thus giving ample time, and yet on that day only eighty-one of the one hundred and forty-one Posts had reported, and even then many had to be notified that the list of delegates was wanting, and that their reports were incomplete in several particulars. Post Adjutants while reporting changes in the “Recapitulation” do not always account for them by name under the proper headings, oftentimes leaving everything blank except the figures, and occasionally entering those in such a way as to require a distorted imagination to make them agree. Post Commanders should forward all reports, and should carefully examine them and see that they are correct and complete before doing so. They should also send the name and description of each rejected applicant to Department Headquarters immediately upon his rejection: this is not always done.

I commend to Post Commanders a careful study of the Rules and Regulations of the proceedings of Department and National

*Post 134, reported in arrears at Evening Session, rendered reports after its adjournment.

Encampments, of the different blanks furnished for reports, and of General Orders as they are received. If these suggestions are acted upon there will be a marked improvement in the reports during the coming year, and the heart of the Assistant Adjutant-General will be made glad.

There are several oases in this desert of incorrect and incomplete returns — I always halt and worship at their shrine: and let me assure those careful and pains-taking Adjutants that their efforts are appreciated, and are even more apparent by contrast. In this connection permit me to refer particularly to Comrade Wm. H. Wade, who has been Adjutant of Post 145, Attleboro', since its formation, and whose reports have always been the perfection of neatness and correctness.

The relief work of the Grand Army has been fully as extensive as in previous years, and aid is more judiciously bestowed, though there are *yet* Posts to be found, ready to respond to *every* call, resident or stranger: and so the voice of the traveling "bummer" is still heard in the land.

A few of the Post Commanders have made it a religious duty to inform Headquarters of every application received from *tramps*, with full particulars; in this way much of the information which has been published in orders, and by the press, concerning the unworthy, has been obtained. When Posts become fully convinced that their duty consists, solely, in looking after the needs of those residing in their immediate vicinity, a record of *itinerants* will no longer be necessary; but until then let every comrade to whom application is made absorb what information he can from the applicant and forward it promptly to Headquarters, then if some "traveler," in his ignorance, should happen to skip a Post, we should have his address — could notify him — and he might take it in on his return trip. I have dwelt upon this outlet to our Relief Fund at some length in previous reports, with a hope that Posts and comrades would discontinue the practice of aiding "perambulating" soldiers, but their confiding natures and proverbial generosity lead them to believe the story of the *next* one, and to help him, even though the *last* did prove a fraud. Verily! ours *is* a charity that "suffereth long and is kind."

In submitting this, my fifth annual report, I must substantially repeat what I have said in previous years concerning my relations with the officers and comrades: they have been pleasant in the extreme; and if those who have called at Headquarters have departed with the same pleasurable feelings that their treatment has caused me, then they have their reward.

Respectfully submitted in F., C., and L.,

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

BOSTON, January 20, 1875.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment :

I have the honor to submit the following Report for the year 1874, in compliance with the Rules and Regulations of our Order :—

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand at last Report	\$106.66
“ received for Department dues, fourth quarter, 1873	887.04
“ “ “ “ “ first “ 1874	879.36
“ “ “ “ “ second “ 1874	873.60
“ “ “ “ “ third “ 1874	861.60
“ “ “ “ “ first “ 1873 (supplementary)	4.72
“ “ “ “ “ second quarter, 1873 (supplementary)	2.96
“ “ “ “ “ third quarter, 1873 (supplementary)	26.72
“ “ “ “ “ fourth quarter, 1873 (supplementary)	12.72
“ “ “ “ “ first quarter, 1874 (supplementary)	8.64
“ “ “ “ “ second quarter, 1874	8.80
“ “ “ Charter fee of Post No. 115	10.00
“ “ “ from sales of Badges	876 00
“ “ “ from sales of Books, Blanks, &c.	743.93
Total	<u>\$5,302.75</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Cash expended as per vouchers	\$4,835.57
“ on hand, Dec. 31, 1874	467.18
Total	<u>\$5,302.75</u>

The expenditures have been for the items and in the amounts named below :—

For printing Proceedings of last Department Convention	\$179.00
“ Inspection expenses	321.05
“ salary of Assistant Quartermaster-General	225.00
“ “ “ Assistant Adjutant-General	1,200.00
“ Dues to National Headquarters	1,340.64
“ Books, Blanks, &c. (sold to Posts)	233.37
“ Badges (sold to Posts)	825.00
“ Office Furniture	54.00
“ Rent and incidental expenses of Department Headquarters, including printing of General Orders, Postage, Stationery, &c.	457.51
Total	<u>\$4,835.57</u>

Total assets of Department, December 31, 1874 :

Amount due from Posts for Books, Blanks, &c.	\$ 66.55
Value of Books, Blanks, Badges, &c., on hand	295.65
Cash on hand	467.18
Total	<u>\$829.38</u>

Total known liabilities of Department, December 31, 1874 :

Salaries, Rent, and office expenses	\$335.10
National Headquarters for Books and Blanks	25.00
A. Demarest, for Badges	37.50
Dues to National Headquarters for third quarter, 1874	219.32
Inspection expenses (estimated)	275.00
Total	<u>\$891.92</u>
Excess of liabilities over assets	\$62.54

By these figures it will be observed that the Department has made a net gain during the year of about \$200. This has been effected by the strictest economy. And I take pleasure in calling your attention to the fact that the incidental expenses of Department Headquarters, including rent, printing, etc., are nearly twenty-five per cent less than last year, and more than fifty per cent less than the average of the last five years.

The last quarter's dues, under the old rate, has been paid to National Headquarters, and this Department will now begin to realize the benefits of the reduced rate of dues, which, by the untiring efforts of your delegates, during the past two years, has at last been established. And we may well congratulate ourselves on our future prospects; for if the financial interests of the Department receive as faithful attention from the Council of Administration, and other officers, during the present year, as during the one just closed, the next report of the Quartermaster will, undoubtedly, show a handsome balance to the credit of the Department.

Submitted in F., C., and L.,

W. S. GREENOUGH,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Boston, January 20, 1875.

The Council of Administration, having examined the financial accounts of the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department, as required by the Rules and Regulations, find a balance on hand, December 31, 1874, amounting to four hundred and sixty-seven dollars and eighteen cents (\$467.18), and they take great pleasure in commending the accuracy and admirable system displayed throughout the Department accounts.

Mr. Commander and Comrades :

We, members of the Council of Administration, desire to deviate from the course usually pursued, and offer a few suggestions for the consideration of the Department Encampment:

First. Members of the Council of 1874 have deemed it their duty to visit Posts, as far as possible, and become ac-

quainted with the condition of the Order, to rouse interest and enthusiasm where they seemed to be waning, and to bring to the attention of Headquarters any matter affecting the welfare of the Grand Army of the Republic, knowledge of which could not be obtained without such visits. We urge the adoption of this plan by our successors, believing that great benefit will result therefrom.

Second. We desire to call the attention of the Encampment to the subject of a Department parade during the present year. County parades, where they have been held, have called the attention of soldiers (not members) to the Order, a large number of whom have joined our ranks. We believe the same result would be attained, in a larger measure, if a parade of the whole Department should take place.

Third. We urge all officers of the Department, and comrades composing the Council of Administration, to attend the monthly meeting at Headquarters, that correct knowledge of the affairs of the Order in our State may be obtained by those having charge of the working interest of the Order, and the burdens of duty be more evenly divided. Finally, we desire to tender to you, Mr. Commander, and the members of your Staff, our grateful acknowledgments for the uniform courtesy manifested toward us during the year just closed.

JARED P. MAXFIELD,
HERBERT E. HILL,
JOS. H. BARNES,
Council of Administration.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment:

Having been appointed Department Inspector by General Orders No. 2, dated March 10, 1874, I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition and efficiency of this Department as far as it has come under my charge. During the year the following comrades were appointed Assistant Inspectors:—

William Spalding,	Post 11,	Charlestown.
John A. Mackie,	" 125,	South Boston.
Henry Wilson, Jr.,	" 35,	Chelsea.
T. J. Buffum,	" 139,	Somerville.
Thomas Swasey, Jr.,	" 82,	Marblehead.
William H. Hurd,	" 75,	Stoneham.
Chas. T. Perkins,	" 81,	Watertown.
Jeremiah Looby,	" 74,	Rockland.
F. H. Bicknell,	" 58,	Weymouth.
J. Silloway, Jr.,	" 94,	Canton.

W. C. Litchfield,	Post 112,	South Scituate.
A. M. Tilton,	" 47,	Haverhill.
T. C. Webber,	" 42,	Lowell.
E. S. Horton,	" 145,	Attleboro.
Geo. H. Patch,	" 142,	South Framingham.
Geo. Randall,	" 9,	Hudson.
J. W. Pedrick,	" 9,	Hudson.
A. M. Parker,	" 10,	Worcester.
Jas. F. Meech,	" 10,	Worcester.
Wm. H. Scammell,	" 22,	Milford.
F. W. Polley,	" 53,	Leominster.
Ethan W. Holden,	" 69,	Westminster.
J. W. Bigelow,	" 37,	Spencer.
A. O. Kinney,	" 103,	Chicopee.
Geo. C. Clapp,	" 44,	Northampton.
W. W. Montgomery,	" 79,	North Adams.
C. M. Brown,	" 79,	North Adams.
F. P. Simonds,	" 63,	Natick.

The following have resigned during the year : —

Geo. H. Patch,	Post 142,	South Framingham.
Geo. Randall,	" 9,	Hudson.
F. W. Polley,	" 53,	Leominster.
W. W. Montgomery,	" 79,	North Adams.

I was fortunate enough to secure the services of most of the Inspectors of last year, and was in hopes that I should be able to present to the Encampment, today, a report of the inspection of every Post in the Department. I am sorry, however, to state that none of the Posts in one of the Districts have been inspected, owing to the Assistant Inspector having had sickness in his family and not reporting to me in time to appoint another Assistant Inspector. I have, therefore, been obliged to depend on the reports of the Commanders of the Posts in that District for their status. From the reports received from the Assistant Inspectors I believe that the Department of Massachusetts is as strong today as it was a year ago. Not perhaps in numbers—for a large number of comrades have been dropped for non-payment of dues—but in the character of the members, and the interest they take in the Order. I find that many of the older members, who had taken the hard work upon themselves during the early days of our organization, and who had, when the Grand Army had attained its greatest strength, allowed other things to keep them away from the Post rooms, are coming back and taking hold again with renewed vigor and interest. This is what every comrade should do. The Assistant Inspectors report, and there is no use denying the fact, that for the past three years many of the members, whose presence would have added interest to the Post

meetings, have been irregular in attendance and left the management of Post affairs to fall too heavily upon a few. I know that most of these comrades still retain their interest in the important objects which hold us together, and are ready to respond with their means and their labor when occasion arises. But it must be borne in mind that united effort, the earnest participation of all in the deliberations and the work, can alone secure that efficiency and vigor which each Post should aim to maintain. By such means alone can we hope to accomplish the useful ends for which, as an organization, we exist.

No doubt this lukewarmness has been caused to a great degree by the election of comrades to fill the various offices who are not capable of or who will not properly perform the duties; and I would again urge upon comrades to place their best members in command. There never has been a time in the history of the Grand Army of the Republic when individual effort was so much needed as now. It is true that we cannot expect to gain many new members, but we can revive the interest in those who have been comrades of the Order and bring them back into the fold, and keep the Department of Massachusetts in the proud position she holds today—the largest Department in the United States. The past year has been a hard one for our membership: a great number of comrades have been thrown out of employment, have been unable to pay their dues, and have therefore been suspended or dropped from the rolls. The majority of these comrades don't wish to leave the Order or have their dues remitted by their Posts, and would, undoubtedly, pay all their dues could they be carried a while longer on the rolls; and I think it would be well if the Rules and Regulations could be amended so as to give some discretion to the Post. Only a few Posts are reported weak—these are in the smaller towns where the members are scattered through different villages. Never strong in numbers, they are weaker now from comrades moving away to find work. Still they have the necessary number of comrades required by the Rules and Regulations to hold their charters, and as they all have charity funds, they are doing all they can to advance the principles of our Order, even though it be only the "widow's mite." I have been enabled to visit more Posts this year than last, and am glad to report that I found all I visited fully alive to the interests of the Order and doing their work well. I found that some of them had adopted my recommendation of last year, and were in the habit, after closing in due form, of admitting the lady friends of the Post and having a social time. I wish this plan might be more generally adopted, as I do believe it would increase the interest of comrades. I believe it would be for the good of the Order if all the Posts could be visited by some Department officer during the year;

but, as that is probably impossible, I would recommend to the incoming Department Commander that each Inspection District be visited either by himself or some other Department officer at least once during the year, and that all the Posts in the district be invited to meet him. It is reported to me that many officers and guards are not properly uniformed. I trust that it will be simply necessary for me to call the attention of Posts to this fact to have the fault remedied. There appears to be in some Posts a misunderstanding in regard to the unwritten work. I would therefore advise every Post Commander, who has any doubt, to visit Department Headquarters and see that he has it correctly. The fraternal feeling between Posts, I am happy to state, is stronger than ever, and the camp-fires and other social entertainments of Posts have been enjoyed by comrades of all neighboring ones. The Ritual has been memorized by the officers of a large number of the Posts the past year: still there are some who have neglected to do so, and I would again urge all officers-elect to commit their part of the Ritual to memory. The expenses of my Department have been about the same as last year. I believe I have reduced them as much as they can be. The Relief Fund remaining in the Posts of this Department September 30, 1874, I find, greatly to my surprise, to be larger than last year, though there has been more expended for charity than in the year ending September 30, 1873. As times are now, I question whether, as a Department, we shall receive as much help from the public as formerly, and I also question whether the time has not come when Posts should be more cautious and investigate more fully the needs and worthiness of applicants before helping soldiers who do not think enough of our Order to come in with us, but who, if they are thrown out of work, or become sick, are the first ones to call on us for aid. It is a notorious fact that more has been spent on such men outside of the Order than on comrades; and is it not time we were beginning to husband our resources? In throwing out this suggestion I know I am in opposition to the ideas of many of the prominent comrades of the Order; but these demands are growing stronger every day (for though we have a large fund, yet it is in the hands of comparatively a few Posts), and it comes hard for the smaller Posts to answer them. I have known cases where all the Charity Fund had been exhausted in answer to such demands, and when the Post were called upon to bury a comrade they were obliged to call upon members to contribute from their own funds to pay the expenses. There are some Posts that do not yet keep the Charity Fund separate from the Post Fund. I would again urge upon them to establish a Charity Fund in accordance with the Rules and Regulations. I have the honor to present to the Convention the total amount of money expended for charity by the

Posts in the Department for the year ending September 30, 1874, and also the total amount remaining in the Relief Funds at that date. The total amount expended for charity from September 30, 1873, to September 30, 1874, was (with eight Posts to hear from) \$34,376.77.

The total amount remaining in the Relief Fund, September 30, 1874, was \$72,601.29. During the fall and winter, fairs, entertainments, etc., have been held, and the Relief Funds are probably some thousands of dollars larger than at that date. My Assistant Inspectors have been live men, who have performed their duties promptly and thoroughly, and I trust they may be retained in their positions another year. I know they have filled their positions with credit to themselves and honor to the Department, and I desire to thank them for the cordial support they have given me and for the zeal and ability they have shown in carrying out the orders of the Department, without which my labors would have been in vain.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C. and L.,

EDWARD B. BLASLAND,
Department Inspector.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

For the year ending December 31, 1874.

The Medical Director respectfully reports, that from the medical returns that have been transmitted to Headquarters, the following statistics are collected:—

Number of Posts which have reported	101
Number of comrades having lost right arm in battle	46
“ “ “ “ left “ “	31
“ “ “ “ both “ “	5
“ “ “ “ a leg in battle	59
“ “ “ “ both legs in battle	—
“ “ “ “ a leg and arm in battle	3
“ “ “ “ been otherwise wounded	1,321
“ “ “ “ lost both eyes in battle	1
“ “ “ “ injured otherwise than in battle	256
Total	1,722

Allow me, at this, the expiration of my term of office as Medical Director, to say that my relations with all the Department officers have been most pleasant and agreeable. I would, also, heartily thank Comrade H. B. Peirce, Assistant Adjutant-

General of this Department, for his valuable services in making out my returns, and would recommend to my successor that he should make haste to cultivate his acquaintance.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE B. COGSWELL, M.D.,
Medical Director, Department of Mass., G.A.R.

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN,

COMRADE GEORGE S. BALL.

Mr. Commander and Comrades:

Allow me to indulge in some personal statements in this report.

First, let me say my interest in this organization of the Grand Army of the Republic increases with the passing years. To me the walls of life press closer and closer. I look backward, perhaps, more than forward. I find myself in most profound sympathy with the purposes and principles of this body.

The years spent in the field come back most vividly, and the ties formed in the hardships of camp-life, the perils of the battle-field, and the sufferings of the hospitals, grow stronger as age creeps on, with its noiseless step. This makes any means of recalling and cherishing the memory of those hours appear more worthy and interesting.

The organization we represent, with its principles of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, I need not say seems well calculated, when fully developed, to recall, cherish, and express the feelings to which I have alluded.

But I am most anxious for its reputation. As my pleasant relations, as an officer of the Department, will cease with this Annual Encampment, let my words, however humble, have your candid consideration. We must *win* the respect and approbation of the communities in which we live, by a proper *self respect*.

Your standing you will create, as your deeds of valor made good your claim to the name *Grand Army* of the Republic. Sobriety and charity shall witness for us and compel respect, as your bearing in field and camp, in lonely watch, and by unflinching endurance, compelled admiration from your fellow citizens.

Institutions are like living beings. Societies, to have power, must be vital and organic. But any organized human efforts receive this vitality from its living and vital elements—from the individuals composing it. This shows the relation of the individual comrade to the Grand Army of the Republic. You stand not, comrade, alone. Fraternity makes you responsible in some measure—and that measure, whether large or small, is vital—

for the place the Grand Army of the Republic shall hold in our State. One drunken comrade, one unworthy, unsoldierly act, does something towards cursing a Post, or the whole body, in the community; as one licentious Pecksniff will shadow with suspicion a whole church.

Also let me say if we could draw to us every worthy returned soldier and sailor who served in the last war, we must emphasize in all our Posts the principle of Fraternity on that side where the social element of our nature shall be attracted. In every heart lies deeply implanted a demand for society. It even shades and determines our religious polarity. Let us then make occasions where not only comrades shall gather, but also their wives, sweet-hearts, and children. Put thought, soul, and mirth into them; rehearse the story of camp and field; correct the history of any army movement by what you really know of it; and by dignity and reverence elevate yourselves, and thus elevate and make attractive this institution we foster.

Today the lists of our charity diminish on the one side to increase perhaps on the other. Faith, Hope, and Charity form the arch of Christian graces; but the greatest of these, inspired lips has pronounced to be Charity. Let it not fail. It were better that nine bummers were aided than one worthy comrade should turn away heartsore because our caution refused his claims and was blind to his necessities.

* * * * *

I must pause. Each year at our Annual Encampment and Decoration Day we are reminded of the poetic epitaph, on a pine slab, at the head of an unknown grave: "A Union Soldier Mustered out of Service." They fall by our side. They go the way we shall soon go.

Since our last Encampment the Department has lost a most worthy comrade in Past Chaplain Comrade Miles Sanford. It is a singular fact, that the only Past officers of the Department who have fallen are Past Chaplains the Rev. Wm. G. Scandlin and Rev. Miles Sanford.

It was my privilege to know both of these men—the first intimately; and to know was to respect and honor. The last I met when he was with the 27th Regiment at Roanoke Island and Newberne. His energy and Christian zeal were limited somewhat by ill health while in the army; but his interest in all that was good, brave, and true, attested by acts in the field and his long and faithful service in the vineyard of his Lord, make his loss great to us, the church, and his family; and our deep sympathy goes out to those who mourn his loss most deeply. May I not be assured—we keep green the memory of those *gone*—but not lost.

Rejoicing today in lives spared, we pledge ourselves, renewedly, to be faithful to our country and its institutions; and as none can be thus faithful unless faithful to our God, shall we not all pledge ourselves, with the assistance of His spirit, to be faithful to Him who has given us all blessings, and who will keep us as in the hollow of His hand — those gone and those who, as the rear guard, wait here a little longer for the command to cross the *great river*.

The Judge Advocate, Comrade Blackmar, stated that he had no written report to offer. Owing to the good behavior of the Posts and comrades throughout the Department, there has been no general courts-martial, hence his duties had not been arduous in that direction; and, concerning questions of a minor nature which had been referred to him, he always declined to answer where his clients would be affected.

The Chief Mustering Officer, in the absence of any material from which to make a written report, regaled the Encampment with a few spicy remarks, taking occasion to remind the comrades of the necessity of attending Post meetings and of manifesting an interest in everything pertaining to their Posts.

Voted, To lay the address and reports upon the table.

Voted, That the Council of Administration be a committee to draft and report resolutions upon the death of comrades alluded to in Commander's address.

Voted, That when we adjourn it be to meet in Mechanics Hall, at 9 o'clock A.M., tomorrow.

Voted, To adjourn.

JANUARY 21.—MORNING SESSION.

The Encampment was called to order at 10 o'clock, the Council of Administration being unavoidably detained until that hour.

Voted, To dispense with the reading of the records of last Encampment.

Voted, To take address of Commander and reports of Department officers from the table.

Motion to accept the address and reports, and amended ordering reports printed and requesting copy of Commander's address for insertion in the printed Proceedings. *Carried.*

The following amendments to the Rules and Regulations were suggested:—

Chapter II., Article II., Section 4, so as to read, "If, on a count of the balls deposited, it appears that not more than one-third of the ballots cast are black, the candidate shall be declared elected," after the words "with ball ballots shall be had."

Offered by Comrade Ferren of Post 75.

Chapter II., Article II., Section 5, so as to read, "If an applicant be rejected, his admission fee shall be returned, and he shall be forever after ineligible for admission to any other Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, without the consent, by a two-thirds vote, of the Post rejecting him; and not again eligible in the one in which he was rejected until six months after such rejection. A second, *and all subsequent* applications, shall be in the same form and subject to the same conditions as the first."

Offered by Comrade Phillips of Post 19.

Voted, To refer the foregoing to the delegates to the National Encampment from this Department, with instructions to urge their adoption, if deemed advisable by them.

A communication was received from Post 122, recommending the adoption of a Kossuth hat by the Posts of this Department, for parades; also, looking to a change in the Ritual. *Tabled.*

On motion of Comrade Parsons of Post 45, and amendment of the Assistant Adjutant-General, it was

Voted, That a committee of eleven be appointed to prepare and submit a list of candidates for delegates and alternates to the National Encampment, and for members of the Council of Administration.

The following comrades were appointed: Parsons of Post 45, Skinner of Post 13, Dyer of Post 7, Robinson of Post 85, Babbitt of Post 3, Mackie of Post 125, Macnamara of Post 15, Maxfield of Post 42, Fay of Post 43, Mansfield of Post 12, and Pickett of Post 10.

Voted, That a committee of five be appointed to receive, assort, and count votes, for the election of a Commander.

Comrades Evans of Post 30, Earp of Post 5, Atwood of Post 73, Meech of Post 10, and Phillips of Post 19, were appointed.

Comrades were requested by vote to be seated.

Voted, That a committee of five be appointed to receive, assort, and count votes, for the election of a Senior Vice-Commander.

Comrades Fox of Post 68, Fairbanks of Post 10, Boardman of Post 113, Seavey of Post 74, and Nash of Post 78, were appointed.

At this point, Comrade J. Frank Dalton, on behalf of Post 34, invited the Encampment to dine with that Post, in their hall, and it was

Voted, That a recess be taken at one o'clock for the purpose of accepting the invitation, if the business should not be completed at that time.

The result of the ballot for Commander was as follows : —

Whole number of votes	237
Necessary for a choice	119
Geo. S. Merrill of Post 39	144
Thomas Sherwin " 144	91
S. C. Lawrence " 66	1
A. O. Kinney " 103	1

And, on motion of Comrade Edw. Sherwin, of Post 144, Comrade Merrill's election was made unanimous.

Voted, That a committee of two be appointed to wait upon Comrade Merrill, inform him of his election, and escort him to the platform.

Past Department Commander Sibley and Comrade Edw. Sherwin, of Post 144, were appointed.

Comrade Merrill, upon being presented, was greeted with cheers, and responded eloquently.

Voted, That the first committee appointed to receive, assort, and count votes be assigned to that duty in the election of Junior Vice-Commander.

The ballot for Senior Vice-Commander resulted as follows : —

Whole number of votes	240
Necessary for a choice	121
C. Frank Luther of Post 79	168
Edwin Earp " 5	52
A. O. Kinney " 103	18
I. F. R. Hosea " 66	2

And Comrade Luther's election was made unanimous.

Voted, That a committee of two be appointed to escort the Senior Vice-Commander-elect to the platform.

Comrades Meech of Post 10, and Hoyt of Post 123, were appointed. Comrade Luther was presented, and expressed his thanks to the Encampment.

The following is a record of the ballot for Junior Vice-Commander:—

FIRST BALLOT.

Whole number of votes	240
Necessary for a choice	121
J. P. Maxfield, Post 42	88
John McDonough, " 66	76
Edwin Earp, " 5	76

And there was no choice.

Comrade Earp asked to be excused from serving upon the Committee, and Comrade Farmer of Post 19 was substituted.

SECOND BALLOT.

Whole number of votes	235
Necessary for a choice	118
J. P. Maxfield, Post 42	109
John McDonough, " 66	67
Edwin Earp, " 5	59

And there was no choice.

The Commander announced that the name of Comrade Earp should be dropped in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, he having received the lowest number of votes.

THIRD BALLOT.

Whole number of votes	219
Necessary for a choice	110
J. P. Maxfield, Post 42	172
John McDonough, " 66	47

And Comrade Maxfield's election was made unanimous.

Comrade White, of Post 35, moved that a committee of one be appointed to present Comrade Maxfield to the Encampment. *Carried*.

Comrade White was appointed, and performed the duty in a very satisfactory manner, after which Comrade Maxfield addressed the Encampment.

Voted, that the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to deposit one ballot, in the name of the Encampment, for Medical

Director, upon which shall be written the name of Comrade Albert Wood of Post 10. *Carried*, by unanymous consent, and Comrade Wood was declared elected.

Comrade Warren H. Cudworth of Post 23 was elected Chaplain in the same manner, Comrade Ball having declined to be a candidate for re-election.

Comrade Fox objected to the use of military titles in Grand Army meetings and upon ballots used in the election of Grand Army officers.

Comrade Sherman, on behalf of Post 39, invited the Encampment to hold their next annual meeting in Lawrence, and the invitation was accepted by a unanimous vote.

The Judge Advocate, on behalf of the Council, presented the following resolutions upon the death of Comrades Sanford and Tift; they were adopted by a rising vote, ordered to be spread upon the records, and a copy sent to the respective families:—

Resolved, That under the record of the death, during the past year, of Past Department Chaplain Comrade Miles Sanford, late of North Adams, we recognize, with sincerest gratitude, his energy, devotion, and faithfulness during the war, his long service in all that pertains to the temporal and spiritual progress of the nation, and his relation to us as an earnest and efficient comrade.

In sympathy with those who deeply mourn his loss we join, but in the faith that he has already received the "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Resolved, That in the death of Comrade L. A. Tift, late of Springfield, Aide-de-Camp to the Department Commander, the Department has lost one of its most earnest and efficient members. He was ever ready for duty, ever cheerful and genial. We mourn his loss, but give him an epitaph worthy a comrade:—

"He has done his whole duty."

Resolved, That we tender to the family of our deceased comrade our earnest sympathy for the loss they have met in his death.

Comrade Parsons, chairman of committee to report a list of nominations for Council of Administration and delegates and alternates to the National Encampment, submitted his report.

Comrade Greenough declined being a candidate as alternate, and Comrade Castle of Post 34 was substituted.

Voted, To accept the report, and that the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to cast one ballot for the Council and one for the delegates and alternates, upon which should be entered the

names as reported, as the vote of the Encampment, and the following comrades were unanimously elected : —

FOR COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Herbert E. Hill	of Post 139
Chas. K. Conn	“ 33
J. M. Cate	“ 12
J. F. Meech	“ 10
Geo. S. Evans	“ 30

For delegates and alternates to the National Encampment :—

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.		ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.	
Thomas Sherwin,	Post 144	Edwin Earp,	Post 5
DELEGATES.		ALTERNATES.	
Chas. H. Taylor,	Post 139	C. H. Pew, 2d,	Post 45
Geo. H. Fullerton,	“ 13	John Davol, Jr,	“ 46
John McKay, Jr.,	“ 7	W. F. Hutchins,	“ 144
Geo. E. Curtis,	“ 73	W. E. Lewis,	“ 85
Jacob Silloway, Jr.,	“ 94	Chas. Castle,	“ 34
E. B. Blasland,	“ 125	J. W. Bigelow,	“ 37
W. A. Simmons,	“ 15	Horace C. Lee,	“ 15
M. J. Ferren,	“ 75	Wm. Spalding,	“ 11
E. C. Whitney,	“ 43	S. C. Chamberlain,	“ 54
W. O. Fiske,	“ 42	J. L. Skinner,	“ 36
Geo. E. Goodrich,	“ 19	J. F. Searles,	“ 24

Comrade Fox of Post 68 moved, That the delegates to the National Encampment be requested to urge the adoption of an amendment to Chapter II., Article VII., Section 2, of the Rules and Regulations, striking out all after the word “choice,” thus doing away with the necessity for dropping the name of the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes in the election of officers. *Carried.*

Commander Kimball installed the officers-elect, with the exception of the Medical Director, the Chaplain, and Comrade Conn of the Council, who were absent.

Commander Merrill addressed the Encampment briefly.

Comrade Kimball thanked the comrades for their kindness to him.

A vote of thanks was passed to Post 34 for their generous hospitality. Also, to the different railroad corporations, for free return tickets. And it was

Voted, To adjourn.

After the adjournment, the comrades repaired to the hall of Post 34, and sat down to an elegant banquet given by the Post, following which came speeches from past and present officers, thanks to the ladies who had volunteered to wait upon the tables, cheers for the Post, and a general interchange of fraternal feelings.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1874.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }
 BOSTON, Jan. 23, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 1. }

I. Having been elected Commander of this Department by the comrades in Convention assembled on the 21st and 22d inst., and having been duly installed, I hereby assume the duties of the office.

II. Comrade Henry B. Peirce is hereby appointed Assistant Adjutant-General, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Appointments of other officers of the Staff will be announced in future orders.

III. The office hours of the Assistant Adjutant-General will continue as heretofore, from 10 to 12, and from 2 to 4, except Saturday afternoons, when the office will be closed.

JOHN W. KIMBALL,
Commander.

Official:
 HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }
 BOSTON, March 10, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 2. }

I. The following Comrades are announced upon the Staff of the Commander, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

W. S. Greenough of Post 12, Wakefield, Assistant Quartermaster-General.

E. B. Blasland of Post 125, S. Boston, Inspector.

W. W. Blackmar of Post 113, Boston, Judge Advocate.

J. G. B. Adams of Post 5, Lynn, Chief Mustering Officer.

Henry A. Willis of Post 19, Fitchburg, Aide-de-Camp.

John McKay, Jr., of Post 7, Boston, Aide-de-Camp.

Brownell Granger of Post 26, Boston Highlands, Aide-de-Camp.

E. C. Whitney of Post 43, Marlboro, “

G. H. Prior of Post 56, Cambridge, “

Chas. D. Nash of Post 78, S. Abington, “

A. St. John Chambre of Post 72, Stoughton, “

E. Mitchell of Post 3, Taunton, “

L. A. Tift of Post 16, Springfield, “

J. L. Skinner of Post 36, Amherst, “

J. A. Richmond of Post 93, Shelburne Falls, “

C. F. Luther of Post 79, N. Adams, “

Harlan Fairbanks of Post 10, Worcester,	Aide-de-Camp.
F. F. Fay of Post 123, Athol,	"
Geo. M. Atwood of Post 40, Malden,	"
Melvin Beal of Post 39, Lawrence.	"

II. A list of the officers elected at the annual Encampment of this Department, in Fitchburg, Jan. 21 and 22, appears in the "Roster," which accompanies this order.

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By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JOHN W. KIMBALL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }
BOSTON, May 1, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3. }

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations, and in compliance with General Orders No. 10, C.S., from National Headquarters, G.A.R., Saturday, the 30th inst., will be observed as Memorial Day by the comrades of this Department of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Posts are requested to invite the co-operation of all comrades not members of the Grand Army, of the clergy, and all who may feel interested in the Memorial service.

Let it be remembered that the brave soldier, whose deeds we commemorate, whose memory we cherish, and whose patriotism we should emulate, gave his life a willing sacrifice upon the altar of his country, not for any one class or condition, but for all the people, that equal rights and universal liberty might be secured to them and their posterity. Then let all join with us, their comrades, in paying our annual tribute of love and affection to the martyrs in the cause of freedom.

And especially let us, who stood with them in the hour of battle, as we reverently place upon the green mound which covers their sacred dust the beautiful spring flowers, emblems of the future and better life, renew to each other our most sacred obligation, to care for the needy and destitute wards of our Grand Army, and the widows and orphans of those who died that the Nation might live. And in decorating the graves of those who are permitted to rest among their kindred and friends, do not forget those equally dear and as sincerely mourned, who sleep in unknown graves on every battle-field of the war, whose resting-place, if marked at all, bears the simple, solemn word, "Unknown"; but let us set apart some pleasant spot and dedicate it to their memories by raising a mausoleum of the choicest flowers, interspersed with evergreen, emblematic of our love for them; for although their resting-place is unknown to us, yet we will in our hearts keep their memories green and their records of noble deeds untarnished.

Let us also raise above the graves of our fallen ones the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; and, "If other eyes grow dull, and other hands slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well, as long as the light and warmth of life remain to us."

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JOHN W. KIMBALL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 4. }

BOSTON, June 15, 1874.

I. Commanders of Posts are reminded that a new edition of the Rules and Regulations has just been prepared, containing the amendments adopted at the last meeting of the National Encampment, copies of which may be procured at these Headquarters, at six cents each. It is desirable that every comrade should be supplied with a copy, and absolutely necessary that every Post officer should, in order that the duties pertaining to their respective offices may be properly performed. The Commander desires the Posts of this Department to be as thoroughly equipped as possible in all that can in any way add to their usefulness, and feels sure that they will cheerfully act upon every suggestion tending in that direction.

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By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JOHN W. KIMBALL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 5. }

BOSTON, July 27, 1874.

1. The following-named Comrades are hereby appointed Assistant Inspectors for the districts named, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

District No. 1, William Spalding, Charlestown: Posts 7, 15, 35, 113, 125, 134.

District No. 2, John A. Mackie, South Boston: Posts 26, 30, 32, 68, 143.

District No. 3, Henry Wilson, Jr., Chelsea: Posts 4, 11, 23, 94, 144, 149.

District No. 4, T. J. Buffum, Somerville: Posts 40, 56, 57, 66, 119, 139, 148.

District No. 5, Thos. Swazey, Jr., Marblehead: Posts 34, 82, 89, 90, 118, 132.

District No. 6, Wm. H. Hurd, Stoneham: Posts 5, 12, 33, 75, 95.

District No. 7, C. T. Perkins, Watertown: Posts 6, 14, 22, 29, 81, 142.

District No. 8, Jeremiah Looby, Rockland: Posts 8, 13, 73, 74, 76, 78, 106, 124.

District No. 9, F. H. Bicknell: Posts 58, 87, 88, 112.

District No. 10, J. Silloway, Jr., Canton: Posts 52, 72, 91, 110, 121, 145, 147.

District No. 11, W. C. Litchfield, South Scituate: Posts 83, 104, 111, 127.

District No. 12, A. M. Tilton, Haverhill: Posts 49, 101, 108, 114, 122, 151.

District No. 13, T. C. Webber, Lowell: Posts 39, 42, 45, 47, 67, 102.

District No. 14, E. S. Horton, Attleboro: Posts 1, 3, 46, 55, 129, 133, 146.

District No. 15, G. H. Patch, South Framingham: Posts 18, 21, 43, 62, 63, 92.

District No. 16, Geo. Randall, Hudson: Posts 9, 48, 54, 59, 64, 86, 96.

District No. 17, A. M. Parker and Jas. F. Meech, Worcester: Posts 10, 24, 27, 28, 60, 61, 77, 107, 131, 135, 136.

District No. 18, W. H. Scammell, Milford: Posts 25, 70, 105, 117.

District No. 19, Frank W. Polley, Leominster: Posts 19, 50, 53, 69, 109, 116, 123.

District No. 20, J. W. Bigelow, Spencer: Posts 37, 38, 51, 65, 85, 100.

District No. 21, A. O. Kinney, Chicopee: Posts 16, 41, 71, 80, 103.

District No. 22, Geo. C. Clapp, Northampton: Posts 17, 36, 44, 84, 93, 97, 120, 150.

District No. 23, William W. Montgomery, North Adams: Posts 79, 98, 126, 130, 137.

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Post Commanders are again urged to send to Headquarters all information concerning applications for aid from traveling soldiers as fast as received. Nearly all are tramps, and their operations can be stopped in a measure by prompt action on the part of those to whom they apply.

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By order of

JOHN W. KIMBALL,

Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 MERCHANTS EXCHANGE, STATE STREET, ROOM 10, }
 BOSTON, Oct. 12, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 6. }

I. The following-named Comrades are hereby appointed Assistant-Inspectors for the Districts named, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Sixteenth District, J. W. Pedrick of Hudson, vice Randall, removed from District; Nineteenth District, Ethan W. Holden of Westminster, vice Polley, declined.

* * * * *

By order of

JOHN W. KIMBALL,

Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 NO. 368 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Dec. 1, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 7. }

I. Hereafter the Headquarters of this Department may be found as above.

II. Comrade C. M. Brown, of North Adams, is hereby appointed Assistant Inspector of the Twenty-third District, vice Montgomery, resigned. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

III. The Commander desires to call the attention of Posts throughout this Department to the destitute condition of the soldiers in Minnesota, as set forth in Circular No. 1, C.S., from National Headquarters. Many of the Posts have responded liberally; but, as winter approaches, their needs are more apparent, and it is hoped that every Post will be able to contribute something. Contributions should be sent to Comrade R. D. Barber, Medical Director, Department of Minn., Worthington, Minn., who is chairman of the relief committee of Stoddard Post No. 34.

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By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JOHN W. KIMBALL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
NO. 368 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Dec. 30, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

I. The following-named Comrades are designated as Mustering Officers, and will install the officers of the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

S. C. Hart, 1, 146; E. Mitchell, 3, 55; Alfred Hocking, 4, 95; Geo. S. Ball, 6, 14, 22; Wm. Spalding, 7, 23, 32, 134; J. C. Sullivan, 8; J. S. Fay, 9, 43; J. Pickett, 10, 61; W. S. Greenough, 12; W. H. Osborne, 13, 124; J. H. Barnes, 15, 26, 68; A. O. Kinney, 16, 41, 103; F. F. Fay, 17, 123; R. T. Nash, 18, 62, 63, 142; F. W. Polley, 19, 53, 64, 69; J. E. Fiske, 21; J. F. Searle, 24, 25, 60; Wm. Beach, 28, 59; Geo. S. Evans, 30, 81, 92; J. T. Wilson, 33, 148; I. H. Edgett, 34, 89; H. Wilson, Jr., 35, 149; J. L. Skinner, 36, 97; A. D. Ward, 37, 38, 51, 65; Geo. S. Merrill, 39, 47; Chas. O. Welch, 40, 57, 139; T. C. Webber, 42, 102; J. L. Otis, 44; Wm. A. Stone, 45, 67; Jos. Harrison, 46, 129; S. A. Green, 115; T. E. Cutter, 49, 114, 122; Geo. H. Fullertown, 52, 94; Geo. H. Prior, 56, 121, 143; F. H. Bicknell, 58, 104; W. H. Hurd, 66, 75, 119; A. St. John Chambré, 70, 72; E. P. Clark, 71, 80; Chas. D. Nash, 73, 78, 127; J. Looby, 74; A. S. Byrnes, 76, 111; C. F. Luther, 79, 126, 130; J. R. Merritt, 82; J. G. Knight, 83, 112; C. C. Haskell, 84, 93, 120; H. A. Monk, 87, 88; J. W. Barnard, 90, 132; W. T. C. Colt, 98, 137; F. H. Moore, 100; S. Nelson, 101, 108, 151; D. A. Partridge, 105, 117; H. C. Alden, 106, 110; V. P. Parkhurst, 109; H. R. Sibley, 113; Geo. V. Barrett, 48; A. A. Carlton, 118; J. F. Meech, 131, 135; D. H. Smith, 133, 145; Thos. Sherwin, 144, 147.

The officers of the Posts 5, 11, 29, and 125 will be installed by the Chief Mustering Officer, Comrade J. G. B. Adams.

II. The foregoing arrangement has been made in order that the service may be rendered without expense to the Department. In case of the absence of the comrade designated above for any Post, and where no comrade has been assigned, the Senior Past Post Commander present will act.

III. Arrangements are being made for free return tickets over all the railroads running into Boston, for use of delegates to the Department Encampment, to be held at Salem upon the 20th prox.

IV. The Council of Administration will meet at the Essex House, Salem (Rooms of Department Headquarters), at 6.30 P.M., upon the day of the Encampment.

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By order of

JOHN W. KIMBALL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
No. 368 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Dec. 21, 1874.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

I. The Annual Encampment of this Department will be convened in the Hall of Phil. Sheridan Post 34, Salem, on Wednesday, Jan. 20, 1875, at 7 o'clock P.M., for the election of Department Officers and such other business as may come before it.

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations, Posts will be entitled to representation in the ratio of one delegate for every fifty members reported in good standing, with one additional member for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to choose at least one member. Post Commanders are members by virtue of their office.

II. The Commander of Post 34 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and a sufficient number of Sentinels, for duty during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General, at 6.30 P.M. on the 20th prox, for instructions.

III. Post Commanders will be required to forward before Jan. 9, 1875, the Adjutant's, Quartermaster's, and Surgeon's reports, together with all dues and a list of delegates and alternates to the Department Encampment, who must be elected at the last stated meeting in December (same time and manner as Post officers); and the Adjutant's report must give the list of Post officers-elect.

IV. Commanders of Posts that have not been visited by an assistant inspector during the present quarter, or have not received notice of such intended visit, will notify this office at once.

V. The officers elected by the several Posts will be installed by the Chief Mustering Officer, or by comrades designated by him, at the first meeting succeeding their election. The Chief will be governed by the wishes of Posts in the selection of mustering officers when practicable; but such requests must be made immediately. Where no comrade is assigned, the duty will be performed by the Senior Past Post Commander present.

VI. The Commander calls the attention to the "Memorial Service," transmitted to the Posts of this Department with G. O. No. 7, C.S., from National Headquarters. Believing that a more appropriate ceremony could not be desired, he earnestly commends its observance.

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By order of

JOHN W. KIMBALL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.





GEO. S. MERRILL,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1875.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT LAWRENCE,
1876.

JANUARY 19.—EVENING SESSION.

THE Encampment was called to order at 7 o'clock by Commander Merrill, all of the Department officers being present except the Senior Vice-Commander, the Chaplain, the Chief Mustering Officer, and Comrade Conn of the Council of Administration.

The roll was called, and 232 comrades, representing 32 Posts, answered to their names. Among the number were Past Department Commanders Cogswell, Sibley, and Underwood.

In the absence of the Chaplain and upon request of the Commander, prayer was offered by the Chaplain of Post 39.

Comrades not members were invited to take seats in the balconies.

The first regular business was the address of Commander Merrill.

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER MERRILL.

Comrades:

As the opening of another year brings us together once more, in full numbers and fraternal spirit, let us be not unmindful of the kind Providence which, shielding us in the hour of conflict and peril, has crowned with rich blessings these intervening years of peace, and given to us again the joyful greetings of old comrades, with all the patriotic emotions and golden memories awakened by these anniversaries. The year past marked the close of the first decade since, with folded tents and furled banners, the armies of the Republic, their combats ended, their marches all o'er, gladly turned their faces homeward, rejoicing in peace so worthily won, in the re-established integrity and unity of the nation for which they had contended. We meet today, in the

opening hours of the grand centennial, rounding out the first century of the American Republic; and as our hearts are thrilled anew with the story of the sturdy patriots of 1776, we should the more rejoice that to us was given the honor of sharing in preserving the government they founded in wisdom, that the entwining memories of 1776 and 1861 might crown with lasting and perpetual glory a free and undivided Republic.

While during the year our organization, throughout the Department, has been preserved from special disaster, and the reduction in the number of Posts has been less than during the preceding year, the wide-spread depression in business, the general reduction in wages, the decrease of production, of necessity severely felt in the ranks of an Order made up so largely from the industrial classes, has left its unwelcome impress in lessened numbers, arising from a smaller list of recruits mustered, and an increase in the roll of suspended for non-payment of dues. With the hoped-for brighter prospects to the industries of the State, we may reasonably anticipate the recovery of some of the ground thus lost; but we cannot shut our eyes to the fact, forcibly suggested in the addresses of my two immediate predecessors, that we are all of us older today by nearly a quarter of the allotted span of human life, than when our names were placed upon the enlistment roll, and that the inevitable mustering-out officer has depleted our ranks as surely and almost as swiftly by natural causes, during the decade of peace, as by the bullet, the shell, and the disease of camp in the years of our active service; and unless we rouse to a vigorous effort for recruitment from among the thousands of true soldiers and sailors yet remaining outside our ranks, who ought, by every consideration of patriotic duty and fraternal obligation to be enrolled in our membership, we must march hereafter with lighter tramp and ever-lessening lines.

The largest number of members in good standing was at close of the second quarter of 1873, reaching, when all the reports were received, 11,382; at the close of that year, the reports gave 11,088, a decrease of 294. The closing quarter of 1874 found us with a membership of 10,541, a decrease of 547. For the fourth quarter of 1875, estimating the 6 posts from which reports are wanting, we have a membership of 9,456, a decrease of 1,085 during the year. The figures upon the annual reports of the Assistant Adjutant-General vary slightly from these, as they necessarily omit the reports not made to him at the close of the final quarter; but the comparative results are substantially the same. With the decrease of membership has come a material reduction in revenue, and by the removal of National Headquarters we have been deprived of the share of rental previously paid by them; this removal, also, necessitated the purchase of a

safe and desks, the cost of which, one hundred and fifty dollars, has been included in the ordinary expenditures of the year. But through careful economy and watchfulness, and a reduction—except in the above-explained item of rent—of the incidental expenses to the lowest figure, the financial exhibit of the year shows no increase in the liabilities of the Department; yet, if the diminution in numbers is to continue, the report of the Assistant Quartermaster-General will indicate the necessity for some action of a financial nature to prevent the incurrence of indebtedness by the Department. For the details of the work and results of the year, I refer you to the excellent report of the several officers of the Department; and for their suggestions, as well as those of the Council of Administration, I bespeak your careful consideration.

It is at the same time exceedingly gratifying that, with the many disadvantageous circumstances, there has been no apparent diminution in the interest of the comrades in the principles and purposes of the Grand Army, and there have been only harmony and good feeling throughout the entire Department. During the year there have been two county parades; that of Essex, at Haverhill, under the efficient direction of Comrade Creasey, being one of the largest this organization has ever held, while the cordiality of the welcome extended by the people generally, the splendid decorations and enthusiastic reception, evinced that the citizens of that section surely have abated no degree of their interest in the Boys in Blue. The parade of Middlesex, in Cambridge, was in all respects worthy the comrades of that county and the gallant Past Commander who so admirably conducted it: a display in all and every degree in keeping with the matchless autumnal day which a smiling Providence vouchsafed.

It is to be regretted that other counties in which our organization is strong and compactly located, do not enlist in these reunions; and although I believe them to be more beneficial to the Grand Army than larger and less wieldy parades, I earnestly echo the hope of one or more of my predecessors, that in the near future,—this year, I trust, unless the centennial observances intervene,—while we are in full numbers, to be privileged *once* to see the membership of the Grand Army of the entire State marshaled in a Departmental parade. It would be a sight to rejoice our waiting eyes, and thrill with glowing memories our hearts, to look down the line of five or six thousand veterans, as again they touched elbows beneath the twin banners of Massachusetts and the Republic. There have been numerous camp-fires and neighborhood gatherings—a means of keeping alive the fires of patriotic and fraternal devotion which I would were multiplied in all sections of the State. I believe no one thing more surely tends to promote the welfare, increase the interest, and add to the mem-

bership of our organization, than these social gatherings, and that the Posts most assiduously cultivating such means of enjoyment and association will be found the strongest and best in the Department. Let us the more frequently invite comrades of other Posts to our meetings, provide in an inexpensive manner for their entertainment, and thus keep ever brightly burning the camp-fires around which we may gather; and as we look into the eyes, and grasp the hands of old comrades-in-arms, strive to perpetuate the thousand glowing memories of camp and field, of the sharp conflict and thrilling charge — the more lastingly and closely cementing the comradeship born amid the smoke of battle and beneath the streaming folds of the flag of the Republic.

I have made nearly fifty Grand Army visits during the year; and that the number has not been larger, I must frankly say is hardly the fault of the Commander, for with a single exception every invitation received has been accepted; and I wish to suggest for your benefit and that of my successor, that this number be doubled the coming year, as I believe great benefit arises, especially to the smaller Posts, by a visit from the officers of the Department, and I know from experience how useful it is to the Commander. If the annual work of inspection, now crowded into a single month, and by comrades of such neighboring posts as will make light the attendant expense, could by some practicable arrangement be largely confided to the Assistant Adjutant-General, so that he, as official representative of the Commander, could visit most of the Posts during the year, I believe it would tend largely to their encouragement and growth; and it would seem that such service might be so arranged as to seldom take this official from Headquarters during ordinary business hours.

In no year has the impressive service of Memorial Day been more widely or tenderly observed than the past; and we may feel assured that there is little danger of the lessons of the great struggle in behalf of an imperiled nation fading from the memories of the people, or their influence being lost upon the hearts of the rising generation, so long as with the coming of each glad spring-time the survivors of the war so reverently bring their blossoms of beauty to strew upon the silent mounds of their fallen comrades, covering their graves with garlands of evergreen and myrtle, and planting there the old banner, to wave in the glad sunlight, kissed by the softest of earth's breezes and bedewed with the showers of Heaven, fit emblem of the cause for which their lives were so cheerfully given — the loyalty to country for which we yet contend.

The relief work of the Order has been admirably sustained; and despite the necessity imposed by the financial depression, of most carefully husbanding our resources, the amount of disbursements has reached \$33,000, but little less than in the more pros-

perous year previous ; and from instances which have come under my observation, some of the smaller Posts have, in proportion to their numbers and ability, fairly eclipsed the magnificent expenditures of the strongest in the Department. I trust we shall never forget that the stringency of the times comes with double bitterness to those of our comrades and their dependent ones who were less fortunate than most of us in escaping the perils of the camp and the conflict ; and it is doubly our duty to so earnestly appeal to the patriotism and the generosity of a grateful people, that none of these wards of the Republic may be left to cold and indifferent charity, while from no hands, surely, can benefactions come with so much judiciousness in disbursement or tender sympathy, as from those of old companions in arms.

The year closed has brought to our Order a sorrow of no ordinary degree, in the death at his home in Weymouth, on the 11th of November, of Comrade James L. Bates, the first Past Commander this Department has been called to mourn. A brave and chivalrous soldier, discharging every duty with conscientious fidelity and faithfulness ; serving his country with the singleness of purpose which alone his pure nature could inspire ; counting no cost too great, and hesitating at no sacrifices for the maintenance of the unity and the integrity of the Republic ; seeking no personal preferment, but content ever in the willing completion of whatever duty the needs of the passing hour seemed to demand ; caring for his comrades of the flag with all the tenderness of a mother's heart : no man better deserved the full measure of respect and love always and everywhere accorded him. A comrade of the Grand Army, among the earliest to become enrolled in its membership, and till the hour of his departure losing no degree of his warm interest in its principles and success, his generous sympathies infolded every defender of the Union cause ; despising not distinction, if like his own, well-won valor and courage in the conflict of arms, but welcoming equally the badge of honorable service that comes from worthily wearing the blue uniform and carrying the musket of the private soldier. As Department Commander he gave the organization a year of most faithful service, and by his conscientious, intelligent devotion, earnest and self-sacrificing efforts, left upon the Order the impress of his own character, and gave to his successors a model worthy their imitation. Upon his retirement, with personal abnegation so like himself, he accepted the urgent invitation of the comrades of his own Post to become again its Commander, which position he worthily filled till his decease ; in all the walks of life commanding the warm confidence and best love of his neighbors and friends, and in the discharge of difficult and perplexing public trusts worthily deserving the simple epitaph it was his desire to win, "Faithful and Fearless." The death of our comrade was

officially announced, and a large representation of the Order was among the willing throng who joined in the last solemnities at his funeral. While we mourn his loss, we have remaining the rich legacy of his pure life and example; there is, in truth, no death to the brave, the generous, and the true; while over their bodies the mounds grow old, their spirits live in immortal youth. Be it ours so to catch the inspiration of his life, that we may as resignedly meet the summons of the Grand Commander, and with our departed comrade answer in the roll-call of the reunited Grand Army on the golden fields of that new camping-ground to which so many of our comrades have already been called.

Almost eleven years have passed since the last struggle closed with the complete restoration of the unity of our Republic; and we have already entered upon that cycle of centennials in which the great pulse of the nation throbs with fresh patriotism and newly-awakened enthusiasm, as we lift the curtain that has fallen upon the deeds and memories of our Revolutionary fathers. In the months gone, we have seen uncounted thousands of our people making a willing pilgrimage to the shrines of those earliest defenders of our land upon whose silent graves rests the dust of a hundred years, and have witnessed the grand pageant with which our Commonwealth commemorated the story of Bunker Hill.

Already the dawning year has been welcomed with the glad music of clanging bells and booming cannon, and the hundredth anniversary of the nation's birth is to be celebrated in a manner worthy a free people; and it seems most appropriate that in the great celebration of the year, the soldiers and sailors of our later struggle should bear a conspicuous part. Most fittingly, the Commander-in-Chief of our organization, as gallant a soldier as the old Keystone State gave to the nation, is at the head of the Commonwealth within whose chief city is to be commemorated the events of 1776; and none will be surer of a more cordial welcome there than the veterans, so many of whom partook of the rare hospitality of the great-hearted men and loving women of that city of peace, in their march to the early battle-fields of the war. I am not certain that it will be advisable to take any action as a Department, in relation to attendance at the Philadelphia observances the coming summer; but the invitation is most pressing, and the arrangements for the comfort and enjoyment of our members will be as ample and generous as the hospitality of our comrades and the citizens of that State can make it. In the years of the future there is likely to be no such extensive reunion of the Boys in Blue, as during this celebration; and surely if any body of men in our land have a special right to share in commemorating the stirring events in which a nation was born, it is they who bore so active a part in the efforts by which that nation was preserved. Already initiative steps have been taken towards a

large representation of the Grand Army in this Department at the centennial gathering; in Middlesex county good progress has been made in recruiting a regiment of our members for this purpose; other Posts have voted to attend, with prospects of considerable numbers; and I sincerely hope the movement may spread, until representatives of every Post in the Department may unite in so pleasant and patriotic an observance. It is *our* only centennial. Let its memories stir our hearts to a participation in all its grand ceremonies.

And in this memorable year, standing thus upon the threshold of the opening century, across which stream the treasured memories of the long years ago, with hearts uplifted by all the recollections of the past, and with no bitterness towards any portion of the people of our land as we join in the nation's grand jubilee, we forget not that the deeds of 1776 are the inheritance of a common land, recognizing no North and no South, but one country and one flag; and we know that when, but a few months since, companies and regiments of Southern soldiers stood in line in the very shadow of the granite shaft crowning Bunker Hill, to unite in celebrating the centennial of that earlier conflict for a common liberty, no hands more kindly than ours clasped theirs upon that historic ground and under the old flag; as, striving not to recall the memories that were behind, we turned our faces to the opening promises of the years to come, with hopes for naught but peace and fraternity in all the future of an undivided country. The Grand Army of the Republic cherishes no antagonisms, seeks to perpetuate no sectional animosities; but let us never for a moment, in this or any future year, forget that not valor, but Loyalty, is the corner-stone of our organization. The pages of history are burdened with the story of men who have bravely dared to suffer and die in support of that which has received the utter condemnation of humanity. No men better appreciate than the soldiers of the Union armies the courage of their opponents upon so many fields, none more willingly accord to them the fullest measure of conscientious conviction; but we raise our monuments and strive to perpetuate the memories of our service, not in exultation over the humiliation of our foes, but in lasting honor to the devotion and sacrifices of the patriotic defenders of national honor and unity. We bring, with each bright spring, our fragrant blossoms to the graves of our fallen comrades, not merely as a tribute to personal valor or courage, but in loyal exaltation of the holy cause of Freedom and Nationality for which they fell. And, believing, with a faith as unwavering as that we hold in our country and our God, that the principles for which we contended from 1861 to 1865, were as sacredly just as those for which a hundred years ago our fathers fought on the plains of Concord and Lexington, and on the crest of Bunker Hill, ask us

not to elevate the cause of the Confederacy to the plane of our own, by recognizing its organized supporters or fallen defenders as entitled to the same meed of praise and grandeur of eulogy as the martyred comrades of ours, whose sacrifice was otherwise causeless and in vain. While with warm hearts we welcome the nation's celebration, and join therein with every loyal supporter of an undivided country and a single flag, be it far from our tongues or hearts, by word, act, or inference, to seemingly apologize before God or to man for having done our best to support and defend that country and flag against any and all assailants in the hour of their peril.

I cannot close without expressing a cordial and grateful acknowledgment of the earnest and efficient labors of the officers with whom your wise choice associated me during the year; and to the members of my own Staff, for their constant watchfulness over the interests of the Order, their counsel and sympathy, and the energy and promptness which they brought to the discharge of the duties of their several positions. To them and to you, my earnest comrades, is due the measure of harmony, good feeling, and success attending the organization throughout the year. A little more than five years ago, the Department Commander, with whom we have sadly parted the past year, called to his service as Assistant Adjutant-General a comrade who from that time has devoted his best energies to the interests of the Grand Army; by his personal excellences and social virtues endearing himself more closely year by year to the comrades, and from his thorough business qualifications, entire familiarity with the Rules and Regulations, and conscientious service, contributing in a large degree to the growth and strength of the Order, its uniform success and admirable reputation, and in all his relations with the Grand Army commanding the respect and confidence and winning the esteem and love of those he so faithfully served.

During the months past, the people of the State, in search of a model public servant, have called him to a wider field of activities, inviting him from the service of the Grand Army to that of the Commonwealth. His place will be most difficult to fill; but from hearts full of regret at our loss, we alike cordially congratulate him and the State on so deserved a recognition; and with gratitude for the long years it has been his pleasure to be our servant, I know you will join with me in kindest wishes for success and good fortune in all the future of our Assistant Adjutant-General, Henry B. Peirce.

I cannot sufficiently thank my comrades throughout the Department, not alone for the distinguished mark of their confidence in honoring me with this position, but for their entire cordiality and uniform courtesy in all the year past. To be counted a worthy member of the Grand Army of the Republic

is an honor no man may despise; to have been permitted to serve for a single term as Commander of the Department of Massachusetts, as the representative of ten thousand veteran soldiers and sailors of our Commonwealth, will be treasured by me with lasting gratitude and constant pride. I trust the experience of the year past gives promise of the entire harmony and good feeling that are to characterize our deliberations during this session, that our cherished organization may enter upon the centennial year with increased prospects of growth and usefulness; and as I surrender to you the high trust you have generously confided to my keeping, while regretting my inability to have given you larger measure of service, I shall return to the ranks with quickened zeal, praying that the richest of Heaven's blessings may rest upon every comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Boston, Jan. 19, 1876.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment:

I have the honor to submit the following report for the year 1875:—

Number of Posts Dec. 31, 1874	141
Number of members in good standing appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1874	10,541
Number of Posts Dec. 31, 1875	139
Number of members in good standing appearing upon report for fourth quarter, 1875	9,395

The following charters have been annulled or surrendered during the year:—

Post 21	Needham.
“ 44	Northampton.
“ 70	Franklin.
“ 106	Holbrook.

Charters have been granted during the year to

Post 20	Colrain.
“ 31	Scituate.

Number of members admitted by muster	715
“ “ “ “ transfer	116
“ “ “ “ reinstatement	819
“ “ lost by death	126
“ “ “ “ honorable discharge	108
“ “ “ “ transfer	168
“ “ dropped from the rolls	1,420
“ “ dishonorably discharged	1
“ “ remaining suspended	1,197
“ rejected applicants during the year	23

The amount disbursed for relief purposes during the year,
 so far as reported, was \$27,956.22
 Number of comrades and their families aided 801
 Number of soldiers, not members, and families of de-
 ceased soldiers aided 1,059

This report is for one hundred and thirty-six Posts.

Posts 41, Westfield, and 119, Lexington, are in arrears for fourth quarter, 1875. Post 137, Great Barrington, has made no reports for two years; and in September last, the Senior Vice-Commander, in accordance with a request from the Council of Administration, visited Great Barrington to investigate the case. Comrade Luther obtained a promise from a former active member of the Post that an attempt would be made at once to revive it, and so reported. It is presumed that the attempt proved fruitless, as nothing further has been heard from it.

The report for fourth quarter, 1875, gives the smallest membership of any quarter for several years; but the loss by death during that time (36) was the largest ever reported for a single quarter.

Of the Posts that have been active in mustering during the year may be mentioned Post 47, Haverhill, which admitted sixty recruits. Post 1, New Bedford, mustered forty-eight. Post 39, Lawrence, twenty-six.

The membership of the Grand Army in Massachusetts is comprised as follows:—

Berkshire County	has 4 Posts with a membership of	113
Hampshire	“ “ 4 “ “ “	124
Franklin	“ “ 5 “ “ “	162
Hampden	“ “ 3 “ “ “	168
Norfolk	“ “ 12 “ “ “	574
Bristol	“ “ 9 “ “ “	658
Plymouth	“ “ 13 “ “ “	726
Suffolk	“ “ 13 “ “ “	1,415
Worcester	“ “ 28 “ “ “	1,581
Essex	“ “ 18 “ “ “	1,906
Middlesex	“ “ 27 “ “ “	1,968

Totals,	136	9,395
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Number of comrades entitled to seats in this Encampment, 376.

During the past year the membership has decreased nearly ten per cent. This fact may be attributed partly to a more thorough observance of Sections 3 and 4, Article IV., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, which relate to comrades in arrears for dues; though, of course, many have allowed their names to be dropped from the rolls because of inability to pay their assessments, and

a false pride, which would not permit them to ask the Post of which they were members for a remission; and again, the gain by muster, which must necessarily grow less as the years pass, was only two-thirds of what it was in 1874. Doubtless the stagnation of business had something to do with this large falling off; the scarcity of labor and corresponding scarcity of money deterring many who would otherwise have identified themselves with us. Notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, several of the Posts show a larger membership than at the commencement of the year, which shows what can be accomplished by determined and united effort on the part of officers and members.

This leads me to refer to a complaint which comes from many Posts concerning the utter lack of interest manifested by their retiring officers. While Post Commanders who have been constant and faithful during their term of office may reasonably expect a respite at its close, yet the comrades who have honored them with the highest office within their gift have a right to notice their protracted, and in some instances entire, absence from Post meetings.

Special reference to either of the large number of adjutants who have been thorough and efficient during the year just closed cannot be made without injustice to the others: they have their reward in the knowledge that their work has been well done, while those who have neglected their duties are sufficiently punished by their own conscience.

The relief work has fallen off but little from previous years; yet Posts have been compelled to rely more upon themselves for means with which to carry it on, and, as a consequence, it has been confined more to members and their families, and to widows and orphans.

Professional aid seekers have not received that encouragement which has rewarded their efforts in previous years, and the usual caution in that direction seems to be no longer necessary.

In closing my sixth and last report, I lack for words with which to express my gratitude to all the comrades, from the highest to the humblest, for the generous treatment which I have always received at their hands. The brightest hours of my life have been spent at Headquarters, and you have made them so by your uniform kindness and regard. Friendships have been formed which nothing can sever, and I am more than ever convinced that the fraternal feeling which exists between soldiers has no comparison. I bespeak for my successor the same cordial, hearty support which has always been accorded to me, and I sincerely hope that his dealings with the comrades may be as pleasant as mine have been.

I shall remember with pride that I have in this capacity received your confidence so long, and I shall be equally proud to

be banded together with a body of men whose aims are unselfish and whose works will endure forever.

In again taking my place in the ranks, I do it with a firm determination not to abate one jot or tittle of my interest in the Grand Army of the Republic.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.,

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

Boston, Jan. 19, 1876.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment:

I have the honor to submit the following report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1875:—

RECEIPTS.		
Cash on hand at last Report		\$467.18
Dues for fourth quarter of 1874		843.28
“ “ first “ 1875		811.52
“ “ second “ 1875		790.72
“ “ third “ 1875		764.40
Arrearages of dues for second quarter of 1874		.88
“ “ “ “ third “ 1874		7.44
“ “ “ “ fourth “ 1874		4.72
“ “ “ “ first “ 1875		14.88
“ “ “ “ second “ 1875		2.48
Charter fees, Posts Nos. 20 and 31		20.00
Sales of Books, Blanks, etc., to Posts		523.32
Sales of Badges to Posts		584.80
Temporary Loan (by vote of Council of Administration)		500.00
Total		<u>\$5,335.62</u>
EXPENDITURES.		
Cash expended (as per vouchers)		\$4,966.26
Cash on hand, Dec. 31, 1875		369.36
Total		<u>\$5,335.62</u>

The expenditures have been for the items and in the amounts named below:—

For printing Proceedings of last Department Convention	\$132.00
“ inspection expenses	489.63
“ salary of Assistant Quartermaster-General (15 months)	375.00
“ salary of Assistant Adjutant-General	1,200.00
“ dues to National Headquarters (five quarters)	1,031.47
“ Books, Blanks, etc. (sold to Posts)	334.88
“ Badges (sold to Posts)	525.00
“ office furniture (for Department Headquarters)	55.00
“ safe (for Department Headquarters)	85.00
“ interest	11.96
“ rent and incidental expenses of Department Headquarters, including printing of general and special orders, postage, stationery, etc.	726.82
Total	<u>\$4,966.26</u>

Total assets of the Department, Dec. 31, 1875:—

Due from Posts for Books, Blanks, etc.	\$ 9.85
Value of Books, Blanks, etc., on hand	300.64
Cash on hand	369.36
Total	<u>\$679.85</u>

Total known liabilities of Department, Dec. 31, 1875:—

Due for salaries, rent, and office expenses (estimated) . . .	\$175.00
Due for inspection expenses (estimated)	200.00
Borrowed money	500.00
Total	<u>\$875.00</u>

Excess of liabilities over assets \$195.15

In my report for the year 1874, the amount due on account of inspection was estimated at \$275.00, while the amount paid and charged in expenditures of the year was \$121.69 in excess of the estimate. Therefore, in order to make a fair comparison of the present financial condition of the Department with that of a year ago, this under-estimate of \$121.69 should be added to the deficiency of 1874 (\$62.54), which would make the showing for the two years very nearly the same. This may be but poor consolation; but when we consider the steady falling off in the amount received for dues, we may well congratulate ourselves that the deficiency is no greater. I desire to call the special attention of comrades who may wish to further compare our present financial standing with that of the last or any previous year, to the following facts, viz.:—

Five quarters' dues to National Headquarters have been paid, also fifteen months' salary of Assistant Quartermaster-General; and all bills, except those for service of Assistant Adjutant-General and Assistant Quartermaster-General, and rent and incidental expenses of Headquarters for the month of December, which have not yet been approved by the Council, have been paid (the Council at the regular meeting in December having authorized the Assistant Quartermaster-General to make a temporary loan for that purpose). In the item of expense at Headquarters for rent, printing, postage, etc. (amounting to \$726.82), it should be considered that nearly \$200 of the amount should properly be charged to last year's account, which would make the real expense of Headquarters exceedingly small.

Believing that this Encampment will give careful attention to the financial interests of the Department, this report is respectfully submitted to their consideration.

W. S. GREENOUGH,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

BOSTON, Jan. 19, 1876.

*To the Members of the Department Encampment in Convention Assembled.**Comrades :*

The Council of Administration elected at the last annual meeting respectfully submit the following report. The books of the Assistant Quartermaster-General, W. S. Greenough, presented for inspection, have been carefully examined and found to be systematically and correctly kept. The account shows that the Department received from all sources during the present year \$5,335.62; while the total expenditures, as per vouchers, have been \$4,966.26; showing a balance on hand Dec. 31, 1875, of \$369.36.

The Council recommend a reduction of expenses at Department Headquarters.

The Council desire to bear testimony to the very happy manner in which the Department Commander has presided over the deliberations of the Council at their sessions, and to the prompt and satisfactory way in which he has discharged all the duties pertaining to his office. The Council also wish to place upon record their high appreciation of one whose official relations close with this administration—who has endeared himself to thousands of his comrades, whose inspiring thoughts suggested, inspiring words spoken, from time to time during six years of service, will ever be held in grateful remembrance. The Council refer to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Henry B. Peirce.

As we are about to begin the second century of our national existence, let us, as members of the Department of Massachusetts, as members of the Grand old Army of the Republic, strive by all means at our disposal to promote friendly and fraternal feeling; to place in office a continued economical administration of the Department, by honest, faithful and capable officers, and to make this centennial year the best in the history of our Order.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HERBERT E. HILL,
JAMES F. MEECH,
GEO. S. EVANS,
JOHN M. CATE,
Council of Administration.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment :

As Inspector for the Department of Massachusetts I have the honor to submit the following report.

The following-named Comrades have been appointed Assistant Inspectors during the year : —

George H. Howard,	Post 57,	East Cambridge.
William Spalding,	" 11,	Boston.
Wm. H. Eastman,	" 34,	Salem.
H. Lyman Johnson,	" 5,	Lynn.
E. G. W. Cartwright,	" 47,	Haverhill.
T. C. Webber,	" 42,	Lowell.
T. J. Buffum,	" 139,	Somerville.
F. O. Barnes,	" 35,	Chelsea.
Thomas M. Kenney,	" 7,	Boston.
C. T. Perkins,	" 81,	Watertown.
A. G. Forbush,	" 18,	Ashland.
Henry Parsons,	" 43,	Marlboro.
William Emery,	" 22,	Milford.
Wm. L. Robinson,	" 10,	Worcester.
E. B. Berry,	" 28,	West Boylston.
S. F. Searle,	" 24,	Grafton.
Geo. R. Hanson,	" 123,	Athol.
H. A. White,	" 131,	Leicester.
F. H. Moore,	" 65,	Warren.
Chas. H. Rust,	" 16,	Springfield.
F. W. Merriam,	" 93,	Shelburne Falls.
W. W. Montgomery,	" 79,	No. Adams.
F. H. Bicknell,	" 58,	Weymouth.
J. G. Knight,	" 83,	Hanover.
C. D. Nash,	" 78,	So. Abington.
G. M. Skinner,	" 13,	Brockton.
E. S. Norton,	" 145,	Attleboro.
A. H. Sproat,	" 3,	Taunton.
John Davol, Jr.,	" 46,	Fall River.
E. W. Thompson,	" 42,	Lowell.
Geo. E. Teele,	" 81,	Watertown.
A. J. Bailey,	" 11,	Boston.
J. F. Meech,	" 10,	Worcester.
Wm. H. Wade,	" 145,	Attleboro.

The following named have resigned during the year : —

C. T. Perkins,	Post 81,	Watertown.
T. C. Webber,	" 42,	Lowell.
T. J. Buffum,	" 139,	Somerville.
T. M. Kenney,	" 7,	Boston.
J. F. Searle,	" 24,	Grafton.
E. S. Norton,	" 145,	Attleboro.

The Assistant Inspectors have in most cases attended to their duties to my entire satisfaction ; but some, I feel compelled to say, have not. Three of the Inspectors resigned at so late a

day that their places could not be filled, and the Posts in their districts have suffered thereby; five have neglected to inspect one Post each, and one inspected but one Post in his district.

The Inspector for Post 134 reports that he made three attempts to inspect that Post, but meetings were not held on either evening.

Post 107 is reported as not having held meetings for nine months past; Post 52 as not having met since April last; and Post 119 as not holding meetings. One Post has been inspected for the first time in two years, and one that has never before been inspected. All the Posts of the Department holding meetings, excepting eleven, have been inspected during the year.

NEW POSTS.

Two Posts have been organized during the year, viz.:—

Post 20 at Colrain,

“ 31 at Scituate,

both of which are reported in good working condition.

MEMBERSHIP.

By the reports of the inspection of 127 Posts, it appears that there were at the date of inspection 7,658 members in good standing: Post 10 of Worcester having the largest number, 398; and Post 27 of Oxford having but nine members.

WORK IN THE RITUAL.

Nine Posts are reported as performing the work in the Ritual fairly, nine as performing it badly, and I believe from my experience in inspecting that hardly any of the Posts performed it correctly, notwithstanding the cipher has been forwarded to each Post during the year. In one Post, in the absence of the O.D., neither the O.G. nor Commander was able to communicate the secret work. In two Posts neither the O.D. nor Commander, and in one Post no officer or member, could go through the work.

In twenty-five Posts the officers were neither uniformed nor equipped; in eighteen Posts the officers are reported irregular in attendance; forty-one Posts do not own muskets, and a much larger number do not use them as required at the outside guard.

MUSTER FEE AND TAX.

In 119 Posts reported, the average amount charged for muster-in is \$2.85, and the average quarterly tax in 107 Posts reported is \$1.69. Thirteen Posts pay regular weekly benefits in case of sickness; the amount (average) so paid is \$3.15.

RELIEF FUND.

On the 30th of September, 1875, ninety-four Posts held relief funds, amounting in the aggregate to \$57,412.78, Post 5 of Lynn holding the largest fund of any one Post, amounting to \$7,920.

Three Posts held between three and four thousand dollars, and six between one and two thousand dollars each.

But four Posts comply with Section 4, Article VIII., Chapter II., of the Rules and Regulations, which require "the Q.M. to hold the funds of the Post," as in nearly all cases the relief funds are held by trustees, and the amounts received and expended do not appear upon the Quartermaster's books. I recommend that the delegates to the National Encampment be instructed to prepare an amendment to the Rules and Regulations for the election of trustees, whose duty it shall be to hold relief or other funds of the Posts.

CHARITY.

The reports show that 110 Posts have expended for charity during the year ending Sept. 30, 1875, \$33,793.18, the largest amount — \$3,748 — having been disbursed by Post 5 of Lynn; Post 34 of Salem being the next in line, having paid out \$3,295. One Post reports but fifty cents expended, and eleven have not paid any amount in charity during the year.

PROSPECT.

The prospect for the future is reported as follows: In eighty Posts good, in 29 Posts fair, in thirteen very poor. In regard to the general condition of the Posts of the Department, I am compelled to say that it has not been strengthened the past year. From various causes the membership has fallen off, and less interest has been taken in the work of the Order than in years past. Not only have members lost their standing by reason of the hard times, but many who are able to pay their dues and retain their membership have lost their interest and left us. The want of care in the selection of Post officers has been one cause of trouble in some of our largest Posts.

The effort that is being made to confer upon the Confederate soldiers the same honor that is claimed for and has been bestowed upon those who united to suppress the Rebellion — which effort carried to its logical conclusion would sweep from our land every monument and memorial hall erected to commemorate the deeds of the Union soldiers — has, in my opinion, had a tendency to weaken our Order. I hope we shall not, by endorsing this effort, "weaken loyalty and encourage treason" and thereby prove false to the principles of our Order.

SYSTEM OF INSPECTION.

The present system of inspection I consider very defective. It is very difficult to obtain competent assistants who will attend to the duty of inspection; uniform instructions are not given, and at present hardly two of the Posts perform the secret work alike.

I earnestly recommend that some other system be adopted, and suggest that the inspections might be made by the Assistant Adjutant-General. While under the Rules and Regulations there must be an Assistant Adjutant-General and Inspector, yet, in my opinion, it would be proper to devolve upon the former officer the duty of visiting and inspecting the Posts. In this way they would be brought into more intimate relations with Headquarters, and the exact standing of each Post known more perfectly than under the present system.

I desire to acknowledge my obligation to the Assistant Inspectors, and also to the Post officers, who by assistance rendered and by acts of courtesy have made the duties of my position pleasant.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.,

GEO. R. KELSO,
Inspector.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

Boston, Jan. 19, 1876.

Commander and Comrades :

I have the honor to present the following report for the year 1875 :—

The report of the Medical Director in previous years has been a consolidation of the surgeons' reports of the different Posts in the Department, giving simply the number of comrades who had been disabled by reason of wounds, or otherwise, and specifying the character of those injuries.

On the second of October last, General Orders No. 6 was issued from National Headquarters, changing entirely the form of the surgeon's report. The amended form requires the following data to be fully and accurately stated opposite the name of each comrade so entitled to be reported, viz. :—

Nativity, regiment or vessel, army or navy, serving in when wounded, branch of service, age when wounded, number of times wounded, date, engagement, part of body injured, result of wound, kind of missile.

This order has been transmitted to every Post in the Department.

Fifty-six Posts have reported more or less fully on the new Form F; 48 Posts have reported on the old Form F; 35 Posts have not reported on any form.

In accordance with instructions from the Surgeon-General, the Medical Director is expected to forward to him through this Encampment these different surgeon's reports, unconsolidated. I am well aware of the great difficulty, and in many instances the impossibility, of obtaining the statistics asked for; but as the old

form of surgeon's report has been discarded, and as no other form but the new one will be received at the National Encampment, I would respectfully recommend that those Posts in this Department which have not reported in accordance with the above mentioned order should be required to do so not later than the 15th of April next; so that the Surgeon-General may have ample time to consolidate these various reports, which I understand he is expected to do before he submits his report to the National Encampment. What changes in the form of this report may be made hereafter, time alone will reveal; but if the Posts have carefully noted in the Descriptive Book the data required at the present time, or have kept a copy of the report forwarded on the new Form F, the labor to prepare future reports cannot be very severe.

There is another suggestion which I think quite important, *if the new form for surgeon's report is to be retained*, which is, that the form of application for admission should be changed so as to contain all of the information required in the new Form F, and that no application should be received until this blank was accurately and fully filled out in all the details. My acknowledgments are due the Assistant Adjutant-General for valuable assistance rendered in preparing this report.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.,

ALBERT WOOD,
Medical Director.

The Judge Advocate, Comrade W. W. Blackmar, submitted a verbal report, stating that it was late in the year when he entered upon his duties, and that his predecessor left nothing behind him when he departed; that all matters submitted to him had been reported upon, and that the result was on file at Department Headquarters.

He offered a few valuable suggestions concerning courts-martial, that frequently proceedings contained no evidence of notice having been served upon the accused; that we could not be too careful regarding courts-martial. The Commander can not approve charges punishable by laws of the Commonwealth for non-payment of debts, etc. If Grand Army offenses only were acted upon, the return of many papers would be prevented; that on the whole the comrades had behaved so well that his duties had been light, and he hoped that his successor would have it drawn equally mild.

The following resolution was offered by Commander Fox of Post 68 :—

Resolved, That the address of the Department Commander and the reports of the Council of Administration, Assistant Adjutant-General and Assistant Quartermaster-General, so far as they relate to the finances of the Department, be referred to a committee of seven, with instructions to report to this Convention previous to the election of Department officers, what measures, if any, can be adopted for reducing the expenses of the Department without injuriously affecting its interests.

Committee: Commander Fox of Post 68, Junior Vice-Commander Maxfield, Comrade Sherwin of Post 144, Comrade Baldwin of Post 10, Asst. Q.M.-Gen. Greenough, Comrade Simmons of Post 15, and Past Department Commander Sibley.

Commander Sargent of Post 39 extended an invitation on behalf of his Post, to the members of the Encampment, to attend a levee in the City Hall, given complimentary to them, and stated that the comrades of that Post were ready with their ladies.

Voted, That when we adjourn it be to meet at 9 A.M. tomorrow.

Motion, That so much of reports as has not been referred to Committee be accepted.

Amended, That so much of Inspector's report as refers to Post 134 be referred to Council of Administration. Comrade Babbitt of Post 3 moved previous question. *Carried*, as was the main question.

At this point, Commander Merrill, on behalf of comrades of the Department, presented to the retiring Assistant Adjutant-General a beautiful gold watch and chain, which the recipient accepted and acknowledged in such words as came to him in the moment of utter surprise and overwhelming gratitude.

Voted, To adjourn.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20.

The Encampment assembled at 9 A.M.

The roll-call showed a membership of 260. Number of Posts represented, 111.

Comrade Emery of Post 26 moved to refer that part of Commander Merrill's address which refers to the death of Past Department Commander Bates to a committee of five. *Carried.*

Committee: Comrades Emery of Post 26, Pickett of Post 10, Lovell of Post 58, Simmons of Post 15, and Past Department Commander Sibley.

Past Department Commander Underwood moved that a committee of three be appointed to report resolutions upon the death of Vice-President Wilson. *Carried.*

Committee: Past Commander Underwood, and Comrades Baldwin of Post 10 and Sherman of Post 39.

Comrade Fox, Chairman of Committee, submitted the following report:—

LAWRENCE, Jan. 20, 1876.

The Committee appointed to consider and report upon those portions of the address of the Department Commander, and the reports of the Assistant Adjutant-General, Assistant Quartermaster-General, and Council of Administration, relating to the finances of the Department, have attended to the duty assigned them and beg leave to report.

1. That they recommend that the printing of the Proceedings of the Convention be this year dispensed with, which will effect a saving of at least \$150.00.

2. That the salary of the Assistant Quartermaster-General be abolished, and the salary of the Assistant Adjutant-General be fixed at \$1,300.00: that officer, in addition to the duties of his office, to perform, as at present, the clerical duties of the Assistant Quartermaster-General, by which arrangement a saving of \$200.00 will be effected.

3. They recommend that the expenses of the Inspector's Department be limited to \$200.00, and that said expenses be, if possible, still further reduced by the appointment of comrades as inspectors who will serve without charge to the Department.

And your Committee would further suggest that the delegates from this Department to the National Encampment be instructed to urge such a change in the Rules and Regulations as will allow inspections to be made at any time during the official year, thereby avoiding the absurdity of correcting the work of officers whose term of service is about to expire, rather than those who have just entered upon their positions.

Report accepted and adopted.

Comrade Fox of Post 68 offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That it is expedient that this Department unite as a Department in the Centennial Parade of the Grand Army of the Republic at Philadelphia, in June or July next, and that the arrangement of the details be left to the Commander and Council of Administration.

The following resolution was adopted : —

WHEREAS, It is understood that the address of the Department Commander and the proceedings of this Convention will be printed in the *Lawrence American*, the Assistant Quartermaster-General is hereby instructed to cause five copies of that paper to be mailed to the Commander of each Post at the expense of the Department.

Comrade Anthony of Post 3 introduced the following proposition to amend the Rules and Regulations : —

“To erase the word ‘shall’ in Article IV., Section 3, Chapter V., and insert the word ‘may’ instead, making the section read as follows, ‘and may be reported suspended,’ instead of ‘shall be,’ etc.; also Section 4 of the same article, making it read ‘may be dropped,’ instead of ‘shall be dropped.’”

Referred to delegates to the next National Encampment, as was the following, offered by Comrade Sherwin of Post 144 : —

Resolved, That the delegates from this Department to the National Encampment be instructed to offer an amendment to the Rules and Regulations by which the annual elections of Post officers shall take place at the first regular meeting in December, instead of the last.

The following was offered by Comrade Macy in behalf of Post 19 : —

“That we instruct our delegates to the next National Convention to bring the following motion before the National Encampment : —

“To add to Article IV., Chapter I., Rules and Regulations, under ‘Membership,’ Section 2, entitled ‘Honorary Membership’: ‘Women who have faithfully served in the hospitals of the United States during the late rebellion for a period of not less than six months, shall be entitled to have their names enrolled upon the roster of the Grand Army of the Republic, and shall be entitled to all the privileges accorded to wards of the Grand Army, and in all *public* meetings and parades of Posts they shall have a place of honor assigned them by the Commander in the meeting and in the line of march. They shall be balloted for and received as honorary members upon their own application if recommended by a comrade in good standing; and their eligibility shall be passed upon by an investigating committee, the same as upon the application of a recruit. A Post may confer the honor upon a lady after the unanimous favorable report of the investigating committee and a unanimous ballot of the Post, without there having been an application filed with the Adjutant of the Post by the lady balloted for. There shall be no fee charged and the badge of “Honorary Members” shall be hereafter designated by the National Encampment.’”

Tabled, on motion of Comrade Babbitt of Post 3. Subsequently the following, offered by Past Department Commander Underwood, was adopted : —

“While this Convention does not deem it expedient to recommend to the National Encampment the enlargement of our membership by adding to it, as honorary members, hosts of loyal citizens, who, though not in our ranks in the field, and not mustered into the U.S. Army or Navy, rendered valuable service in the defense of the nation, both with the armies in the field and at home, it is hereby

Resolved, That we remember with gratitude the cheerful and important labors of those patriotic citizens and earnest friends of ours in sustaining the integrity of the nation, especially those warm-hearted and loyal women who dedicated their lives during the war to contribute to the comfort of the soldiers in the field, the care of the wounded, sick, and dying defenders of the flag in the hospitals all over the land.”

Commander Bampton of Post 26 moved to instruct the delegates to the National Encampment to use their influence to secure the following amendment to the Rules and Regulations : —

“To amend Chapter I., Article VI., Section 1, so as to provide for the election in the same manner as officers of Posts, of a Treasurer of the Charity Fund, who shall have charge of all funds and other property donated for charity purposes.”

Referred to the delegates.

The Council of Administration, to whom was referred that part of the Inspector's report alluding to Post 134 reported as follows : —

“The matter relating to the inspection of Post 134 has been investigated. The Council has met the Commander and Delegate from Post 134, and after listening to statements from them and from the Inspector of the Department, both Commander and Delegate of said Post express themselves satisfied with the report of the Inspector upon hearing his explanation.”

Report accepted.

Voted, To proceed to election of officers.

Voted, That a committee of five be appointed to receive, assort and count votes.

Committee : Comrades Scammell of 22, Earp of 118, Osborne of 124, Cook of 127, and Sumner of 132.

Past Department Commander moved to reconsider. *Carried*.

Comrade Sherwin of Post 144 placed in nomination for Commander, Comrade Horace Binney Sargent.

Voted, To proceed to ballot.

Comrade Emery of Post 26 moved, That a committee of twelve be appointed to nominate candidates for Delegates and Alternates to National Encampment, and for Council of Administration. *Carried.*

Committee: Comrades Emery of 26, Flowers of 34, Babbitt of 3, Nash of 78, Hill of Council of Administration, Lamb of 10, Saunders of 1, Sherwin of 71, Patch of 142, Fox of 68, Coulter of 64, Richardson of 42.

Comrade Hoyt of Post 123 moved to proceed to the election of Senior Vice-Commander, and that another committee of five be appointed to receive, assort, and count votes. *Carried.*

Committee: Comrades Hoyt of 123, Campbell of 50, Puffer of 55, Prior of 56, and Hastings of 58.

The result of the ballot for Commander was as follows:—

Whole number of ballots	253
Necessary for a choice	127
Horace Binney Sargent	246
George S. Merrill	3
J. G. B. Adams	3
L. D. Sargent	1

And, on motion of Comrade Adams of Post 5, Comrade Horace Binney Sargent's election was made unanimous.

Comrade Coon of Post 12 moved, That there be a Committee of five appointed to receive, assort, and count votes for Junior Vice-Commander. *Carried.*

Committee: Comrades Coon of 12, Young of 36, Philbrick of 39, Barnes of 43, and Palmer of 46. The names of Comrade Herbert E. Hill of Council of Administration, J. McDonough of Post 7, and E. B. Macy of Post 19 were placed in nomination.

The ballot for Senior Vice-Commander resulted as follows:—

Whole number of ballots	230
Necessary for choice	116
J. L. Skinner of Post 36	226
G. E. Curtis [of Post 73]	2
G. H. Babbitt of Post 3	1
J. P. Maxfield, Junior Vice-Commander	1

And Comrade Skinner was declared elected.

The following, introduced by Comrade Fox of Post 68, was adopted:—

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Convention the future interests of the Grand Army require the establishment and maintenance of

more direct and intimate relations between Department Headquarters and the several Posts; and to this end the Commander and Council are requested to cause the Department to be divided into as many Districts as there are members of the Council of Administration, excluding the Commander and Assistant Adjutant-General, and that a district be assigned to each member, proper regard being had to location and convenience of access, and each be required to visit every Post in his district at least once during his official term.

Comrade Woodward of Post 103 moved, That a Committee be appointed to present the Senior Vice-Commander-elect to the Encampment.

Comrade Woodward and the Junior Vice-Commander appointed; and Comrade Skinner was introduced and addressed the comrades.

The ballot for Junior Vice-Commander resulted as follows:—

Whole number of ballots	240
Necessary for a choice	121
Herbert E. Hill of Post 139	170
John McDonough “ 7	37
E. B. Macy “ 19	23
A. O. Kinney “ 103	10

And Comrade Hill was declared elected.

Comrade Albert Wood of Post 10 was unanimously re-elected Medical Director, but declined serving.

Comrade Ferren of Post 75 presented the name of Comrade Wm. S. Brown of that Post for Medical Director.

Comrade Patch of Post 142 moved that the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to deposit one ballot in the name of the Encampment, for Medical Director, upon which shall be written the name of Comrade Wm. S. Brown of Post 75. *Carried*, by unanimous consent, and Comrade Brown was declared elected.

Comrade J. F. Lovering of Post 81 was elected Chaplain in the same manner.

Comrade Fay of Post 43 moved that a committee be appointed to escort the Junior Vice-Commander-elect to the platform. *Carried*.

Committee: Comrade Fay and Comrade Atwood of Post 40. Comrade Hill was presented and addressed the Comrades. The following, offered by Comrade Osborne of Post 124, was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Army of the Republic of Massachusetts co-operate with the Adjutant-General of the State in completing the rolls

of our volunteers in the late war; and that it is the duty of the various Posts of this Department to aid the authorities of their respective towns and cities in perfecting the records specified in Chapters 65 and 229 of the acts of the year 1863, said acts providing for the preservation of the records "of our soldiers and officers."

Past Department Commander Sibley moved that the next Annual Encampment be held in the City of Boston. Referred to the Council of Administration.

The Committee on Resolutions, of which Comrade Emery was Chairman, reported as follows:—

WHEREAS, The hand of death has removed from our midst, since our last gathering, one of our beloved Past Commanders, Comrade James L. Bates; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the members of this Encampment of the Grand Army of Massachusetts realize how inadequate are any resolutions from this body to convey our high sense of his valor and patriotic services as a soldier, his spotless integrity as a citizen, and his courtesy and manly bearing in all the relations of life.

Resolved, That we recognize the fact that the Grand Army of the Republic is called upon to mourn one of its earliest and most faithful friends—a noble-hearted comrade, a genial, chivalrous soldier and gentleman.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of our Encampment, and a copy be sent to the family of the deceased.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

The Committee appointed to nominate a list of delegates and alternates to the National Encampment reported as follows:—

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.		ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.	
T. Sherwin,	Post 144	A. O. Kinney,	Post 103
DELEGATES.		ALTERNATES.	
J. P. Maxfield,	Post 42	J. S. Baldwin,	Post 10
H. W. Briggs,	" 41	J. W. Locke,	" 12
M. Burns,	" 33	C. Philbrick,	" 39
E. P. Clarke,	" 71	H. H. Brewster,	" 98
J. F. Dalton,	" 34	I. F. Kingsbury,	" 62
Geo. R. Kelso,	" 11	R. T. Nash,	" 63
W. F. Draper,	" 22	C. T. Perkins,	" 81
G. E. Curtis,	" 73	C. F. Allen,	" 78
T. Churchill,	" 7	J. McDonough,	" 7

The report was accepted and the nominees unanimously elected.

The following comrades were elected members of the Council of Administration: James F. Meech of Post 10, Geo. S. Evans of Post 30, C. C. Emery of Post 26, J. Silloway, Jr., of Post 94, J. M. Cate of Post 12.

Comrade Underwood, on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions upon the death of Vice-President Wilson, submitted the following, which were adopted by unanimous vote:—

“Amidst the universal sorrow that pervades the people of this republic at the death of the late Vice-President of the United States, the Hon. Henry Wilson, the members of this Convention, as representatives of the soldiers and sailors of Massachusetts in the late war, feel that we have met with a special and irreparable loss, and deem it a privilege to enter upon our records our grateful recognition of his eminent service in defense of the nation during the great struggle, and in sustaining the hearts of the soldiers and sailors who were fighting its battles.

“We remember with grateful hearts that he was not only an able, honest, and illustrious statesman, was also himself a soldier, and during the brief period he could spare from his engrossing and important duties in the Senate, commander of a gallant Massachusetts regiment; that his sympathies were always with the defenders of the old flag, and in every place—in the Senate of the United States, on the battle-field and in every hospital, and on every ship—he was recognized as the friend of the soldiers and sailors; and as long as any of them survive, his name will be held by them in grateful veneration.”

Commander Sargent of Post 39 extended a cordial invitation to the comrades to attend a banquet at the close of the session, given by the Post.

Voted, That the members of the Encampment attend in a body.

Voted, That the officers-elect of this Department be requested to transmit to the officers and members of Post 39 the cordial, hearty thanks of this Encampment for their generous welcome and unbounded hospitality.

The officers-elect who were present — *i.e.*, Senior Vice-Commander J. L. Skinner, Junior Vice-Commander Herbert E. Hill, and the five members of the Council of Administration — were installed by Commander Merrill; and the Encampment adjourned at 12.50 P.M.

At the banquet the following telegram, received from the Commander-elect, whose illness prevented him from attending, was read:—

SALEM, MASS., Jan. 20, 1876.

Comrades:

I offer my most respectful thanks for the valued honor which you have conferred. The fact that it is the spontaneous gift of those to whom I am bound by the most patriotic ties that exist among men, compels my tender and fraternal gratitude. During the term of my command I shall bear in mind that while every citizen soldier always, as an individual, owes to the State and Nation political duties from which his membership of a charitable military order cannot possibly relieve him, the reverent memory of our dead, active charity to the living, soldierly fidelity to public and private trust, and an unfading love for our motherland, are the broad foundation stones and only politics of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT.

The banquet was a perfect success, as was every effort of the Post for the comfort and pleasure of the visiting comrades. Comrade Sherman of Post 39 presided; and after an address of welcome by the Post Commander, speeches were made by Senior Vice-Commander Skinner, Commander Merrill, Comrade Wm. A. Simmons of Post 15, Past Department Commanders Cogswell, Sibley, and Underwood, and Comrade J. G. B. Adams of Post 5; and the Hatton Quartette of Lawrence elicited hearty applause by their admirable rendering of a number of songs. The singing of "Marching through Georgia" closed the banquet and the exercises of the Convention. There was but one opinion: the Department had never held a more harmonious or satisfactory session.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1875.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 No. 368 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Jan. 22, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 1. }

I. Having been elected and duly installed as Commander of this Department for the ensuing year, I herewith assume the duties of the office.

II Comrade Henry B. Peirce is hereby appointed Assistant-Adjutant-General, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Appointments of other officers of the Staff will be announced in future orders.

III. The office hours of the Assistant Adjutant-General will continue the same as heretofore, from ten to twelve, and from two to four, except Saturday afternoons, when the office will be closed.

GEO. S. MERRILL,

*Official:**Commander.*

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 No. 368 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Feb. 17, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 2. }

I. The following Comrades are announced upon the Staff of the Commander and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

OFFICIAL STAFF.

W. S. Greenough of Post 12, Wakefield, Assistant Quartermaster-General.

Geo. R. Kelso of Post 11, Charlestown, Inspector.

H. M. Burleigh of Post 123, Athol, Judge Advocate.

Wm. G. Sheen of Post 88, Quincy, Chief Mustering Officer.

PERSONAL STAFF.

E. A. Fiske of Post 39, Lawrence, Aide-de-Camp.

John S. Baldwin of Post 10, Worcester, “

Edwin Earp of Post 5, Lynn, “

J. W. Holmes of Post 16, Springfield, “

E. Geo. Biddle of Post 134, Boston, “

J. W. White of Post 35, Chelsea, “

W. F. Hutchins of Post 144, Dedham, “

R. T. Nash of Post 63, Natick, “

Chas. L. Rice of Post 74, Rockland, . “

John Davol, Jr., of Post 46, Fall River, Aide-de-Camp,
 W. T. C. Colt of Post 98, Pittsfield, "
 Edwin H. Woods of Post 7, Boston, "
 J. Warren Cotton of Post 56, Cambridge, "
 Edw. L. Rowe of Post 45, Gloucester, "
 Chas. H. Chase of Post 34, Salem, "
 J. A. G. Richardson of Post 42, Lowell, "
 Anson Withey of Post 120, Greenfield, "
 Geo. W. Rockwood of Post 59, Sterling, "

II. A list of the officers elected at the annual Encampment of this Department at Salem, Jan. 20, 21, appears in the "Roster" which accompanies this order.

III. All official correspondence will be signed by Post Commanders and addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General.

By order of

GEO. S. MERILL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 NO. 368 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, May 1, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 3. }

The 30th of May this year, falling upon Sunday, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, and in compliance with General Orders No. 12 from National Headquarters, Saturday, the 29th inst., will be observed as Memorial Day in this Department.

It is earnestly recommended that Posts endeavor to make broader and more general the participation in these patriotic services, and especially to awaken the interest and secure the co-operation of all surviving soldiers and sailors of the late war, not members of our organization.

The years pass. From our ranks since last we reverently bent over the grass-grown mounds of our departed comrades thousands have been mustered out to join the invisible host beyond, and in each succeeding spring our columns will march with lessened tread to the growing circle of these voiceless graves, until ere long, when we are all numbered among the "silent majority," to other hands must be confided the fulfillment of these tender offices, and by other hearts be treasured the fragrant memories recalled by the duties and associations of Memorial Day. But while we live, be it our duty to cherish, as a solemn inheritance of the nation, the graves and the bereaved ones of our fallen comrades. Thus year by year repeating these willing services, we may keep warm in our own hearts the sadly-sweet memories of their heroic sacrifice, and deepen in the minds of all the people the impressive lesson of their valor, that in the distant future of our Republic such memories and deeds may awaken a loyalty as fervent as that now being rekindled over our broad land by the recollections of Liberty's Centennial, which in a day but just closed summoned uncounted thousands of our people to the shrines of those earliest martyrs, upon whose silent mounds rests the dust of a century.

With gratitude to the God of our Fathers, who has so wonderfully led and preserved our Nation, let us, with full ranks and overflowing hearts, march again with our departed comrades, repeating the story of

their heroism, whose never-fading glory comes streaming down the already gray and misty slopes of the years gone by; go to the silent encampments where sleep the Nation's dead, there,

"Around the graves of our heroes kneeling,
Heaven above, and their dust below,"

let fall the sympathetic tear, plant anew the flag they loved so well, crown with bright chaplets their monuments, and cover their wounds with evergreen and myrtle, entwined with fragrant blossoms, on which the glad sunlight has painted something of eternal purity and beauty, wrought by willing fingers into symbols of love and Christian faith.

By order of

GEO. S. MERRILL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
NEW NO. 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, June 12, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

I. Comrade G. A. Churchill of Post 68, Boston (Dorchester District), is hereby announced as Aide-de-Camp upon the Staff of the Commander. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. The Commander has been requested to ask for information concerning the desertion or death of William H. Campbell, who served in Co. C, 12th Regt. Mass. Inf. Vols., and who is reported upon the records at the office of the Adjutant-General of the State as having "deserted at Thoroughfare Gap, Va., Oct. 25, 1863." As many friends are of the opinion that he was killed, any definite information from those who served with him will be thankfully received.

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By order of

GEO. S. MERRILL,
Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
NEW NO. 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Aug. 6, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 5. }

I. The following-named Comrades are hereby appointed Assistant Inspectors for the districts named, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

- | | | |
|--------------|----|--|
| District No. | 1, | Geo. H. Howard, East Cambridge, Posts 11, 15, 23, 35, 134. |
| " | " | 2, William Spalding, Charlestown, Posts 7, 32, 68, 88, 113, 125. |
| " | " | 3, William H. Eastman, Salem, Posts 5, 82, 95, 118, 132. |
| " | " | 4, H. Lyman Johnson, Lynn, Posts 34, 45, 67, 89, 90. |
| " | " | 5, E. G. W. Cartwright, Haverhill, Posts 42, 49, 114, 122, 151. |

District No.	6,	T. G. Webber, Lowell, Posts 39, 47, 101, 102, 108.
"	"	7, T. J. Buffum, Somerville, Posts 4, 12, 33, 40, 75.
"	"	8, F. O. Barnes, Chelsea, Posts 57, 66, 139, 148, 149.
"	"	9, Thomas M. Kenney, Boston, Posts 26, 30, 56, 92, 143.
"	"	10, C. T. Perkins, Watertown, Posts 29, 62, 81, 119.
"	"	11, A. G. Forbush, Ashland, Posts 6, 14, 18, 63, 142.
"	"	12, Henry Parsons, Marlboro, Posts 9, 43, 86, 96.
"	"	13, William Emery, Milford, Posts 22, 105, 117.
"	"	14, Wm. L. Robinson, Worcester, Posts 10, 24, 77, 135, 136.
"	"	15, E. B. Berry, West Boylston, Posts 28, 54, 59, 64.
"	"	16, J. F. Searle, Grafton, Posts 25, 27, 60, 61.
"	"	17, ———— Posts 19, 48, 50, 53, 69, 115.
"	"	18, Geo. R. Hanson, Athol, Posts 17, 107, 109, 116, 123.
"	"	19, H. A. White, Leicester, Posts 37, 38, 51, 131.
"	"	20, F. H. Moore, Warren, Posts 65, 85, 97, 100.
"	"	21, Chas. H. Rust, Springfield, Posts 16, 41, 71, 80, 103.
"	"	22, F. W. Merriam, Shelburne Falls, Posts 20, 36, 84, 93, 120.
"	"	23, W. W. Montgomery, No. Adams, Posts 79, 98, 126, 130, 137.
"	"	24, F. H. Bicknell, No. Weymouth, Posts 58, 87, 104.
"	"	25, J. G. Knight, Hanover, Posts 31, 83, 111, 112, 127.
"	"	26, C. D. Nash, So. Abington, Posts 13, 74, 76, 124.
"	"	27, G. M. Skinner, Brockton, Posts 8, 52, 73, 78, 110.
"	"	28, E. S. Horton, Attleboro, Posts 72, 91, 94, 121, 144.
"	"	29, A. H. Sproat, Taunton, Posts 3, 55, 133, 145.
"	"	30, John Davol, Jr., Fall River, Posts 1, 46, 129, 146.
*	*	* * * * *

By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GEO. S. MERRILL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
NEW NO. 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Oct. 27, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 6. }

I. The following-named Comrades are hereby appointed Assistant Inspectors for the districts named, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

Sixth District, E. W. Thompson of Lowell, vice Webber, resigned.
Seventeenth District, J. W. Myrick of Fitchburg. Twenty-eighth District, W. H. Wade of Attleboro, vice Horton resigned.

II. The orders announcing Mustering Officers will be issued early in December, and the Chief will be governed by the wishes of Posts in their selections, when practicable. Recommendations must be forwarded before December 1, in order that sufficient time may be given the installing officer to prepare himself for the duties.

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By order of

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GEO. S. MERRILL,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 NEW NO. 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Nov. 1, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 7. }

Comrade W. W. Blackmar of Post 113 is hereby appointed Judge Advocate, vice Burleigh, removed [from the State]. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

GEO. S. MERRILL,

Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 NEW NO. 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Nov. 12, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 8. }

"FAITHFUL AND FEARLESS."

I. It becomes the painful duty of the Commander to announce the death of Comrade James L. Bates, Commander of Reynolds Post 58, Weymouth, and Past Commander of this Department, which sad event occurred at his home yesterday, at 10 A. M. A brave soldier, an exemplary citizen, a Comrade whose interest in the Grand Army never flagged, gone to join the ranks of that army in which his noble life here below so fitted him to serve.

II. The funeral services will take place at the Congregational Church, South Weymouth, on Sunday at two o'clock P. M. under charge of Reynolds Post. A special train will leave Old Colony Station at 12.45 P. M.; returning, leave South Weymouth at 5.30 P. M. Department officers and Staff will assemble at the station in uniform, with usual badge of mourning upon left arm.

By order of

GEO. S. MERRILL,

Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 NEW NO. 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Dec. 15, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 9. }

I. The following named Comrades are designated as Mustering Officers, and will install the officers of Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

S. C. Hart, New Bedford, 1, 146; A. H. Sproat, Taunton, 3, 55; C. B. Baldwin, Melrose, 4, 95; Wm. Emery, Milford, 6, 14, 22; J. C. Sullivan, Middleboro, 8; Henry Parsons, Marlboro, 9, 43, 86, 96; J. Pickett, Worcester, 10, 61; J. G. B. Adams, Lynn, 11, 29, 118; G. A. Wheeler, East Bridgewater, 13; E. B. Blasland, South Boston, 15, 35, 113, 139; C. H. Rust, Springfield, 16, 41, 103; Rufus Livermore, Orange, 17, 123; G. H.

Patch, South Framingham, 18, 63, 81, 92, 142; J. W. Kimball, Fitchburg, 19, 53, 69, 77; F. W. Merriam, Shelburne Falls, 20, 36, 84, 93, 120; Geo. H. Howard, East Cambridge, 23, 56, 134; J. F. Searle, Grafton, 24, 25, 27, 60; C. C. Emery, Boston Highlands, 26, 68, 125; E. B. Berry, West Boylston, 28, 54, 59, 64; Herbert E. Hill, 500 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 30, 34, 143; W. C. Litchfield, South Scituate, 31, 112; Chas. H. Porter, Quincy, 32, 57, 149; J. L. Parker, Woburn, 33, 75, 148; J. W. Bigelow, Spencer, 37, 131, 136; A. D. Ward, Brookfield, 38, 51, 100; E. W. Thompson, Lowell, 39, 102, 108; Chas. O. Welch, 116 Tremont St., Boston, 40; S. C. Parsons, Lawrence, 42; W. A. Stone, Manchester, 45, 67; Jos. Harrison, Fall River, 46, 129; Geo. W. Creasey, Newburyport, 47, 101, 114, 122; Chas. W. Hathaway, Ayer, 48, 50, 115; P. C. Mason, Newburyport, 49, 151; G. M. Skinner, Campello, 52, 124; J. P. Jordan, Wollaston, 58, 87, 104; A. B. Underwood, Newton, 62; F. H. Moore, Warren, 65, 85, 97; Chas. K. Conn, Woburn, 66; E. P. Clark, Holyoke, 71, 80; A. St. John Chambre, Franklin, 72, 105, 117; J. W. Sproul, Abington, 74, 78; A. S. Byrnes, Plymouth, 76, 111; Geo. H. Kearn, North Adams, 79, 126, 130; J. R. Merritt, Marblehead, 82; J. G. Knight, Hanover, 83, 127; W. H. Eastman, Salem, 89, 90, 132; F. G. Webster, Canton, 91, 94; V. P. Parkhurst, East Templeton, 107, 109, 116; J. Walter Bradlee, Blue Hill, 110; W. H. Wade, Attleboro, 121, 133, 145; T. Sherwin, Boston, 144. The officers of Posts 7, 73, and 88 will be installed by the Chief Mustering Officer; those of Post 12 by the Assistant Quartermaster-General, and those of Post 5 by the Assistant Adjutant-General.

II. The foregoing arrangement has been made in order that the service may be rendered without expense to the Department; Post Commanders will correspond with their respective Mustering Officers at once, giving full information as to date of first regular meeting in January, place, etc. In case of the absence of the comrade designated above for any Post, and where no Comrade has been assigned, the Senior Past Post Commander present will act.

By order of

GEO. S. MERRILL,

Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 NEW NO. 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Dec. 16, 1875.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 10. }

I. The Annual Encampment of this Department will be convened in Saunders Hall, Lawrence, on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 1876, at 7 o'clock P.M., for the election of Department officers and for the transaction of such other business as may come before it.

Representation: One delegate for every fifty members reported in good standing, with one additional for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its number, shall be entitled to choose at least one delegate. Post Commanders are members of the Encampment by virtue of their office.

II. The Commander of Post 39 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and a sufficient number of Sentinels for duty during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General at 6.45 P.M. on the 19th prox. for instructions.

III. Department Headquarters will be established at Headquarters of Second Battalion Light Artillery, opposite the post-office; the Council of Administration will meet at that place at 6 o'clock P.M. Wednesday.

IV. Post commanders will be required to forward, before Jan. 10, 1876, the adjutant's, quartermaster's and surgeon's reports, together with all dues, and a list of delegates and alternates to Department Encampment, who must be elected at the last stated meeting in December (same time and manner as Post officers).

The officers and members of Needham Post No. 39 — with which the Encampment is to meet — have extended a cordial invitation to the members, and earnestly hope there will be a full attendance, and they will endeavor to make the visit of the comrades to Lawrence one of entire enjoyability.

Needham Hall, Headquarters of Post 39, will be open on Wednesday and Thursday, where a reception committee will be in attendance, and all the comrades are invited to make it their headquarters while in the city.

The sessions of the Encampment will be in Saunders Hall, nearly opposite Needham Hall; the artillery headquarters, kindly proffered for meeting of the Council of Administration, is also in an adjacent block.

At 9 o'clock on Wednesday evening, or immediately upon adjournment of the session of the Encampment, the members are invited to a levee in the City Hall, which will close with dancing; the Quartermaster will issue rations from Needham Hall, with which the City Hall is connected.

The Committee have made arrangements with the three larger hotels for a reduction of rates to those attending the Encampment, namely: supper, lodging and breakfast, \$1.50 each. The location of the hotels and the number of delegates to whom they can conveniently furnish accommodations, are as follows: Franklin House, opposite the depot, 150; Essex House, corner of Essex and Hampshire Streets, 75; Boston Hotel, Essex Street, near the post-office, 50.

Trains leave Boston for Lawrence, via Boston & Maine R.R., at 7.30, 8.30, and 10.15 A.M.; 12 M.; 12.30, 3.30, 5.00, 6.00 and 6.45 P.M. By Boston & Lowell R.R., at 7.45 and 11.00 A.M., and 2.15 and 5.45 P.M.

Leave Lawrence for Boston, via Boston & Maine R.R., at 6.25, 7.30, 8.00, and 9.40 A.M.; 12.20, 3.40, 5.30 and 7.05 P.M.; by Boston & Lowell R.R., at 7.45 and 11.00 A.M., and 1.15 and 5.00 P.M.

V. Full information as to entertainment to be provided, arrival and departure of trains, etc., is appended.

By order of

GEO. S. MERRILL,

Commander.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.



HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1876-7-8.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT BOSTON,
1877.

JANUARY 17.—EVENING SESSION.

PREVIOUS to Commander Sargent taking the chair, the Assistant Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll of members and alternates entitled to seats in the Convention, and 208 comrades responded; all the Department officers were present excepting Senior Vice-Commander Skinner and Junior Vice-Commander Hill. Past Department Commanders Cogswell, Underwood, Merrill, and Sibley were present.

By request of Commander Sargent, prayer was offered by Chaplain Lovering.

On motion of Past Commander Underwood, all comrades present, not members of the Encampment, were invited to take seats in rear of hall.

The reading of the records of the previous convention were dispensed with.

The first regular business in order was the Address of Commander Horace Binney Sargent.

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER HORACE BINNEY SARGENT.

Comrades:

We have reached another mile-stone on our march to the Grand Encampment of the loved and lost. The tenth year of our military, charitable order has come to an end. To review our condition, to deliberate on the duties still before us, and to appoint your agents for the coming year, you have assembled in the Annual Convention of this Department.

In returning to your hands the command with which you have honored me, I cannot too gratefully or too tenderly express my respectful sense of your confidence, your considerate forbearance, your many acts of kindness, and your soldierly support.

To know the Grand Army of the Republic as it exists in Massachusetts, and as a visiting commander learns to know it, is to honor and to love all that is tender and brave in the hearts of men. While enjoying the hospitality and gayety of your fraternal camp-fires, I have never forgotten the solemn facts of your army life. Song and jest have hardly veiled the picture of the past—your scenes of anguish or of glory, your wounds, your prison agonies, your serried columns crowding into death's fiery gates ajar. The assurance that I may call ten thousand of such men my comrades and my friends is a proud and happy memory.

To the Council of Administration, and to the officers who have been my near associates, especially to the Assistant Adjutant-General, James F. Meech of Worcester, and to the energetic Department Inspector, Samuel Dalton of Salem, and the efficient Assistant Quartermaster-General, Edward T. Raymond of Worcester, my earnest commendations and hearty thanks are due. On my part, a sincere personal friendship, that will long survive this year of my service, has grown from harmonious association with every member of Department Headquarters, Staff and Council.

Some of these gentlemen have always accompanied me in the many visits to the Posts, whose hospitality and generous civilities have filled my year of office with grateful and delightful recollections.

Not the least touching memory of visits has been the evidence of interest and sympathy that the citizens, the generous men and women of Massachusetts, have exhibited. And I have the pleasure of reporting to you that the Hon. Edward Gray of Kingston, Mass., as executor of the will of Miss Elizabeth P. Sever, recently took the trouble to call upon me to state that this most charitable lady had bequeathed the sum of three thousand dollars "To a Soldiers' Home to be located in Massachusetts." It is to be hoped that soldiers, on every Memorial Day hereafter, will tenderly place a chaplet of flowers on the grave where her gentle and generous heart is returning to the dust.

Such acts as hers, in aid of anguished men whom she has never seen, go far to shed light on the mystery of suffering. They suggest to us that benevolence and gratitude are agents in evolution, and develop a holy principle, from which angelic natures may draw new, sustaining forces as from a pure fountain-head of life. And on earth, loyalty and patriotism are nourished by the thought that some sweet woman's dying lips remember a soldier's wounds.

Fuller reports will be made to you by the Assistant Adjutant-General, the Assistant Quartermaster-General, the Auditing Committee of the Council of Administration, the Department Inspector, the Judge Advocate, Medical Director, and Chaplain.

The general result may be stated as follows : Number of comrades in good standing, as determined by reports received from 119 Posts and estimated from latest returns of 21 Posts which have neglected to send in their final reports, 9,017.

As the decrease of membership from our highest point, which reached the number 11,382 in 1873, was 294 in that year, 547 in 1874, and 1,146 in 1875, the present number of Posts, which appears to be 140, and of comrades, 9,017, as against 139 Posts and 9,395 comrades in 1875-6, may be considered, in the face of natural causes of decay and an unprecedented financial depression, as eminently satisfactory. When times improve we may reasonably expect, if we are true to our great work, to receive considerable accessions to our ranks.

By reports consolidated up to the date of inspection, 1876, it appears that the charity funds of 99 Posts amounted to \$48,031.08, and that the sum expended in charity was \$26,207.88. The other Posts had no relief funds.

By the report of the Assistant Quartermaster-General, it appears that the receipts of the Department Headquarters have been, in 1876, \$3,614.46, and that the expenses have been, in the same time, \$3,387.06.

The known liabilities up to January 1 were in excess of assets up to that time \$53.15, the excess in the preceding year being \$195.15.

Experience has shown the necessity of a small fund, to be held by the Assistant Adjutant- or Quartermaster-General, to avoid the borrowing of a few hundred dollars at the close of the year, when the final disbursements are to be made and the final returns from Posts have not been received.

In copying much of our organization from the army we have sometimes created machinery or established customs not the best suited to our own work.

The relation of the departments of the Assistant Adjutant-General and the Assistant Quartermaster-General, in one particular, induces me to make a suggestion that may be of importance in some future appointment of untried men to these offices. By our custom, the Assistant Quartermaster-General gives bonds of five thousand dollars, to secure the funds in his hands, though all these funds are received from the Assistant Adjutant-General, who gives no bonds, although all dues and moneys of the Posts in the first place pass through his hands. As the Assistant Adjutant-General is the executive officer of the Department, and requires some funds in his hands, it seems to me that the present method is circuitous ; and as he may have in his hands a larger sum than the Quartermaster-General, it also seems that the interests of the Department may, at *some future time*, require additional protection against loss in the hands of the collecting officer who

is for the time as much a treasurer as the Quartermaster. The convenience of the Adjutant-General and the protection of the Department, in reality as well as in form, make the subject proper for your careful consideration; for we may not always have the present faithful incumbent.

The report of the Department Inspector gives but a small idea of the labor performed by himself and his Assistant Inspectors. But for the great energy and liberality exhibited by this gentleman and his subordinates, I think the reduction of the expenses of inspecting Posts would have proved a mistake. Exact and thorough inspection of remote Posts is a necessary stimulant to good Grand Army work. The traveling charges of such inspection are no trifling sum.

By the report of the Medical Director it appears that 1,218 wounded men are reported from 114 Posts, the other Posts not having furnished statements in time for his report to me.

Among the events of the year, a camp-fire of more than usual importance was held in Faneuil Hall. Here, the true lines of our action were clearly laid down as a fraternal, charitable, loyal organization; abstaining as an organization from all political discussions and partisan nominations, and leaving to our members perfect liberty of opinion and action consistent with loyalty to one flag and the prosperity of the whole Republic.

Senior Vice-Commander J. L. Skinner has removed from Massachusetts to California. At his request, and in consideration of his services, I transmitted to him a cordial letter of recommendation to that Department of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Chaplain of the Department, Rev. J. F. Lovering, and Comrade Jacob Silloway of the Council of Administration, have become officers of the National Encampment. To both of them I have been indebted for cordial and able support.

The present year has been distinguished by two events of importance to this Department. The parade at the National Encampment in Philadelphia, July 3, 1876, was of eminent interest; and its success, so far as this State is concerned, was largely owing to the soldierly bearing and generous enthusiasm of Post 5 of Lynn, J. G. B. Adams, Commander, who appeared with an admirable command of 170 men, and gave the use of their fine band to Headquarters. Posts 68, 7, and 15, with members of other Posts, contributed to the honor of Massachusetts on that occasion, and in spite of the intense heat during a very long march, all showed they were soldiers.

The Department Commander of Massachusetts was assigned to the command of New England Departments; the delegates were entertained at a most elegant and sumptuous breakfast in Fairmount Park by the Posts of Philadelphia; and we received

many civilities which reminded us of the tender hospitality which the loyal women of that generous city poured forth, through all the nights and days of the war, on the legions of the Union.

On the eleventh of October, 1876, for the first time in our history, we had a parade of the Department. Four thousand, five hundred men, with many bands, drum corps, and colors, moved in column through the hushed and crowded streets of Boston. Sympathizing faces of men and women, who remembered the anxious days of war, gazed tenderly upon us. Time and sickness, anxieties and wounds, had bent many a veteran form that they had seen in the glory of hope and youth. But the honest pride of duty done was in the veteran hearts; and you swung into the old, measured, but easy, step that the march to a hundred battle-fields had taught you. And when, for the first time for a dozen years, you stood face to face with each other on the broad avenue, and the drum-beat and the bugle-ring waked sweet, sad, glorious memories from their grave, you woke the old city with the army shout and cheer that made the tears of men and women fall like rain. Roar upon roar of your joyous greetings shook the sky, and the banners over your heads fluttered and waved as if they were fanned by the rush of immortal wings.

Ah! who would not willingly believe that the heroes and martyrs of that bitter past had heard your invocation, and hovered over the gallant ranks that they knew and loved so well! Gladly would I believe they came; gathering, gathering from the cemeteries, by hill-side, vale, and river, and from the countless graves of glory, unmarked by man, and known only to God. And why should they not come? The object of your martial assemblage in October was grand and holy. It was to remind our fellow-citizens that our charitable association existed; that war had brought wounds and suffering; that men who had suffered all but death required a home and bread; that virtuous women and innocent children, whose natural protectors had died that the nation might live, were thrown on the cold, cold world. Well might the angels of the dead come to our shouting hosts that day in aid of our effort for their beloved.

The sweet sympathy of the people waited on our march. The spaces in our decimated ranks were, to them, filled and thronged with the unseen, who had for long years found the new, real meaning of those well-worn words of the past, "All quiet on the Potomac." And from every mutilated form in our ranks there came up an appeal for charity that was not uttered to unfeeling hearts. Your march was a silent and grand ovation.

It is for you to consider, comrades, how the object of our Department parade shall be best carried out and attained. I ask

your attention to a few reflections in regard to the best methods of charity.

It is recorded of that Augustus Cæsar who was surnamed Caligula, that he gave the old gladiators to the tigers and lions of the circus, because meat for the beasts was dear, and old gladiators were of great expense and little profit to the State.

To give worn-out veterans as a prey to homeless hunger and cold, though the maintenance of these worn-out soldiers may cost something to the State, is unworthy of any free commonwealth. Least of all do we expect it from that patriotic and generous Commonwealth, in whose behalf her Governor, John Albion Andrew, in 1861, addressed you: "From the bottom of my heart of hearts, as the official representative of Massachusetts, I pay to you, soldiers, citizens, and heroes, the homage of my most profound gratitude; and the heart of Massachusetts beats with full sympathy to every word I utter. We stay behind to guard the hearthstones you have left, and, whatever may be the future, we will protect the wives and children you may leave; and as you will be faithful to the country, so we will be faithful to them." Were you and the dead not faithful?

Death has left those wives and children in many instances without protectors. Under a mischievous system of finance, which has trifled with our currency and broken faith alternately to the creditors and to the debtors of the land, the nation is filled with wreck, and many of these hearthstones have been swept away. The ability of soldiers to assist each other is seriously diminished. Yet, unless this State and city would become a laughing-stock to the world, the living, anguished monuments of patriotism must not beg their bread in vain under the shadow of the Old South Church. "If thy son ask bread, will ye give him a stone?" Would that he could find a shelter under it!

A home for disabled soldiers; some safe refuge for the impoverished widows and orphans, especially the orphaned girls, of soldiers dead; and a central bureau of charity, with a moderate power of relieving pressing cases of destitution that apply to headquarters for relief. These are the wants that crowd before you.

With regard to the Home, some considerations touching the facts of our history and the genius of our people may be in place. A large and constant fund is needed. We are not a military nation. The soldier, as such, does not excite enthusiasm as he would in a country of large standing armies; and our comrades have not the active sympathy of all the people, because they won their anguish and their glory, not in foreign, but in civil war. It may, therefore, well be doubted whether—when we reflect that republics are proverbially ungrateful, and from their frequent change of constituencies and representatives necessarily of short-

lived memory—an expensive institution, comparable to the Hotel of the Invalides, could find any permanent niche in our institutions. The pomp and circumstance, the popular admiration, the vast revenues required, are not easily created or sustained. Even the inmates would become restive under a necessary discipline if they should feel themselves prisoners rather than heroes. Our Institution must be truly a Home.

Yet something must be done. We, soldiers, cannot suffer our cloth to be degraded by even a pity for an unhappy comrade unless that pity be also respectful. He is above all cold-eyed pity. Low as poverty and misery may have sunk him, his triumph in one grand hour of the nation's past has placed him on a height of victory; his inexpressible anguish of wounds and torture have lifted him high upon a cross of agony, both of which, whether suffering or glory, raise him above mere pity. He has been a hero.

It is the duty of every one of us to relieve every case of suffering so far as we can; and especially to remove from all unfeeling gaze the marked cases of distress and abject despair which sometimes meet our eye.

I therefore recommend that we should endeavor to procure at once "a temporary home," where any cases requiring immediate relief or shelter, sustenance or medical care, may be sent for present relief. And that, for the support of such a home under a proper superintendent, the Posts should create a central fund, to be under the control of the Council of Administration, subject to the occasional round draft of the Assistant Adjutant-General, approved by a Committee of the Council and the Department Commander. The necessity of a small cash account for charity is severely felt at Department Headquarters, which are pressed by frequent appeals. A system and more centralized organization of a part of our charity to relieve distress that cannot wait for the action of Posts, often remote, will prevent waste and promote the ends of our Order.

At present the burdens of charity are very unequally distributed among the Posts. Some Posts exhaust themselves and their friends; others have no charity fund. Some Posts have no calls of distress; others are overrun by demands. A central bureau that knows the needs and the ability of every Post and all our calls, would be useful in many ways, and could do much more good than is done at present. An assessment at the rate of one dollar a year upon each member, or at that rate upon Posts, would supply an annual central fund of ten thousand dollars, which would support a temporary home, relieve many cases of distress, and equalize the load among Posts, some of which are in the habit of sending applications from among their own members, to other Posts that have a charity fund.

The long-continued depression has led me to abstain for the present from any attempt to procure the requisite funds by subscription among our fellow-citizens. I have reason to believe that if the Department of Massachusetts were incorporated or, under acts of incorporation, a Board of Trustees were appointed to hold real and personal estate to our use, liberal subscriptions and bequests would follow. Their Excellencies, Governor Rice and ex-Governor Gaston, have kindly assented to my suggestion that they, as representing the best elements of both political parties, should be members of such a Board, in aid of our entirely non-political organization. I earnestly recommend this subject to your consideration. Present action is demanded.

In addition to a temporary home, which I hope may yet grow into permanent proportions worthy of a patriotic Commonwealth, and cherished by her veteran sons, and to some adequate provision for a central fund, by assessments, subscriptions, and bequests, for its support and for cases of distress not adequately met by the relief funds of Posts, I would also ask you to consider the wisdom of providing homes in private families for the objects of our charity. A small sum would assist to pay the board of a soldier or a soldier's wife and child in families where such a presence might be useful. The memory of a life almost sacrificed to patriotism, the constant presence of a veteran, scarred with wounds, and bearing the medal of our Order, or perhaps some reward of heroism on his breast, could not fail to impress the young. While he would be peacefully descending to the grave amid the tender care of women and children, the future soldiers of the Republic would have learned from his tales of field and flood, not merely how fields were won, but something of the spirit that upheld the flag in the darkest days of the Republic.

If we should succeed in establishing a permanent Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, I would suggest that it should be as nearly self-supporting as possible, but with the most careful avoidance of everything that should make it resemble a work-house or reformatory institution. Rules and regulations would, of course, be necessary. But it should never be forgotten that the inmates are objects of reward and gratitude and veneration. Industrial facilities, in and out of the establishment, should be afforded. The co-operative system of a division of profits might find a field within the walls of the Home. All possible freedom of going, staying, and returning should be accorded. The purpose never should be forgotten. It is to make the veteran happy, and give him, in return for his blood, the comforts of life with the least pain or suffering to himself. At the head of it must be a Superintendent who loves mankind, and honors courage and fidelity wherever he sees it in any race or color.

To establish such an institution that the veterans of Massachusetts should own and fondly regard as *their* Home, supported by their charity, glorified by their record, and over which their State banner and the Federal flag of stars and stripes should always wave—a Home where every soldier of the Grand Army could feel a right of ownership as he would in his club or his inn—to establish such a Home as this would give new life to our fairs and dramas and camp-fires. Soldiers would swell our ranks when we should have a local habitation and a name. The splendid palaces built on the Mediterranean shores by the military orders of the Knights of Palestine, still attest their brotherhood, their heroism, and their power in the past. Surely in all Massachusetts ten thousand men can find, or can make a roof of their own, from which a soldier of the Grand Army of the Republic shall not be turned, cold, or hungry, or naked, or despairing, away.

In the few minutes that remain I would earnestly impress upon you the importance of maintaining all the military forms and discipline of our Order. The sloven, the man who so detests red tape that no one would ever imagine he had been a soldier, the mutineer who saps the foundation of authority by speech or through the press, are foes to a camp. They are men who either were never well commanded or never commanded well. There is nothing more out of place than a man in uniform who is ashamed of it, or tries to act as if he never had one on.

And as our Order professes to cherish the associations of our army life, which in all good commands made you, by the length and severity of your experience, regulars, we ought to maintain the regulations that we have voluntarily imposed on ourselves. Keep intact, jealously preserve the distinction of history, constitution, and habit between yourselves and other charitable—now military—associations. Recollect that wise lips have said, “He who despiseth forms, knows not what he despiseth.” Choose soldierly men to offices that demand soldierly ways. Do not be ashamed of being the most soldierly man in your Post. Promptly obey all orders. The Adjutant-General’s Department is an unmeaning form if you delay responses that you would not delay in a camp. Remember that not court-martial, but your honor, demands prompt performance of your duty and in proper form. We are all bound to each other by exact soldierly bonds, as well as by the dearest human ties that exist among men.

Comrades, my work is finished. It is for you individually to carry on our labors. May God prosper you in all your doings! May the blessing of all men rest upon you, and the promised gratitude of our beloved Commonwealth be shed in a flood of benediction upon you, her “Soldiers, Citizens, and Heroes!”

On motion of Past Commander Sibley, a committee of (7) seven was appointed to consider the several recommendations contained in the address of the Commander, as follows:—

Comrades Sibley of Post 11, Adams of 5, Lovell of 58, Richardson of 42, Silloway of 94, Lamb of 10, Dalton of 34.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

BOSTON, Jan. 17, 1877.

Commander and Comrades of the Department Encampment:

I have the honor to submit the following report for the year 1876:—

Number of Posts Dec. 31, 1875	139
“ “ Members in good standing fourth quarter	9,395
“ “ Posts Dec. 31, 1876	140
“ “ Members in good standing fourth quarter, 1876	8,222

The following charter has been surrendered during the year:—

Post 100 W. Brookfield.

Charters have been granted during the year to

Post 70 Millbury.
“ 99 W. Warren.

Number of members admitted by muster	635
“ “ “ transfer	90
“ “ “ reinstatement	807
“ “ lost by death	89
“ “ “ honorable discharge	103
“ “ “ transfer	152
“ “ “ dropped from rolls	852
“ “ “ dishonorable discharge	89
“ “ “ remaining suspended	809
Number rejected during the year	16
Amount disbursed for relief purposes during the year so far as reported was	\$26,207.88
Number of comrades and families aided	859
Number of soldiers not members and families of deceased soldiers aided	780

This report is for 119 Posts, 21 Posts having failed to make complete returns.

In closing my report, I desire to return my most sincere thanks for the courtesy and hearty co-operation extended to me, at all times, by the officers of this Department and comrades generally.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1876.

RECEIPTS.

Amount received by Asst. Q.M.-Gen. Greenough, previous to Jan. 31, 1876	\$784.69
Cash received from Asst. Q.M.-Gen. Greenough	74.67
Dues for fourth quarter, 1875	5.52
Dues for 1876	2,275.26
Charter fees, Posts 70 and 99	20.00
Sale of books and blanks	497.37
Sale of badges	297.39
Sundries	144.25
Temporary loan (by vote of Council)	300.00
Total receipts	<u>\$4,399.15</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Amount expended by Asst. Q.M.-Gen. Greenough previous to Jan. 31, 1876	\$784.69
Cash expended as per books and vouchers since Jan. 3, 1876	3,387.06
Cash on hand	227.40
Total	<u>\$4,399.15</u>

ASSETS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Due from Posts for books, blanks and badges (estimated)	\$300.00
Value of books and blanks on hand	169.25
Cash on hand	227.40
Total	<u>696.65</u>

TOTAL KNOWN LIABILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Due for salary, rent of office and office expenses (estimated),	\$150.00
Due for Inspector's expenses	133.00
" printing	22.00
" National Headquarters, dues for third and fourth quarters, 1876	369.80
Due for National Headquarters, books, blanks and badges, (estimated)	75.00
Total	\$749.80
Assets	<u>696.65</u>
Excess of liability over assets	<u>\$53.15</u>

In submitting this report I would most respectfully call your attention to the relation existing between the Assistant Adjutant-General's and Assistant Quartermaster-General's departments.

By a vote of the Convention the clerical duties of the Assistant Quartermaster-General devolve upon the Assistant Adjutant-General. All money is received by the Assistant Adjutant-General, and many of the bills paid by him. The duty of the Assistant Quartermaster-General is simply to be responsible for all money received by the Department, although he personally may never see or receive any of it.

I would recommend that the Assistant Adjutant-General be made Assistant Quartermaster-General, and placed under bonds as now required of the Assistant Quartermaster-General.

The lack of promptness on the part of some of the Posts in paying money due the Department is a serious hindrance to the transaction of the business. The returns required from the Department by National Headquarters are delayed two or three quarters, and it has become necessary for the Department to borrow money in order to carry on business.

E. T. RAYMOND,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Boston, Jan. 17, 1877.

To the Members of the Department Encampment in Convention Assembled.

Comrades :

The members of the Council of Administration have examined the accounts of the Quartermaster-General and find them in all respects correct.

We find the total receipts from all sources for the year 1876 have been \$4,399 15
The expenditures have been 4,117 75
Cash on hand this date 227 40

It has been the custom for the past few years, during the close of the term, for the Quartermaster-General to borrow a small sum of money in order to pay all outstanding "Bills" against the Department, so that the reports can be presented without going into details on small items.

The Council, though compelled to adopt this course this year, heartily disapprove of it, and would earnestly recommend that this Convention adopt some method by which Posts will be compelled to make all returns, with their *per capita* tax, on or before

the 10th day of January of the succeeding year. By this means the Department will be enabled to meet all of its indebtedness, and the work of the Assistant Adjutant-General and Assistant Quartermaster-General greatly simplified.

The Council cannot close its duties without expressing its kindest regards and its highest appreciation of the valuable services rendered this Department by our retiring comrade, Horace Binney Sargent.

The Department is also to be congratulated upon having secured the services of one so well qualified both by disposition and ability as the Assistant Adjutant-General James F. Meech, to fill that arduous and responsible position.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. S. EVANS,
JOHN M. CATE,
JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
J. SULLOWAY, Jr.,
C. C. EMERY,
Council of Administration.

It was voted, on motion of Comrade Fox, Post 68, That when this Convention adjourn it be to meet at 10 o'clock A.M., Thursday.

DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Boston, Jan. 16, 1877.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

In compliance with Section 1, Article V., By-laws of Grand Army of the Republic, I have the honor to submit my consolidated report of inspection of the Posts in this Department, also a duplicate copy with letter to be forwarded to the Inspector-General of the National Encampment.

In nominating comrades for Assistant Inspectors I selected Posts, as far as possible, which have never had one of their number in that position, and asked the Commander to recommend some comrade for nomination. In every case I have been satisfied, and heartily thank my assistants for the prompt and efficient manner in which they have fulfilled their duties.

The following Assistant Inspectors have been appointed during the year:—

H. A. Wright,	Post 26,	Highlands.
W. A. West,	" 23,	E. Boston.
J. W. Hart,	" 34,	Salem.
W. S. Baird,	" 5,	Lynn.

D. Johnson, Jr.,	Post 39,	Lawrence.
S. C. Parsons,	" 39,	Lawrence.
T. Talbot,	" 49,	Newburyport.
G. E. Filkins,	" 15,	Boston.
M. C. Beadle,	" 56,	Cambridge.
A. P. Barrett,	" 33,	Woburn.
J. P. Houghton,	" 62,	Newton.
J. F. Makee,	" 62,	Newton.
W. H. Brown,	" 6,	Holliston.
J. F. Dolan,	" 9,	Hudson.
D. A. Partridge,	" 105,	W. Medway.
W. W. Scott,	" 10,	Worcester.
A. S. Davidson,	" 64,	Clinton.
E. P. Morton,	" 61,	Webster.
J. H. Hetherington,	" 61,	Webster.
J. Phillips,	" 19,	Fitchburg.
J. W. Wallace,	" 109,	E. Templeton.
V. P. Parkhurst,	" 109,	E. Templeton.
G. P. Ladd,	" 37,	Spencer.
A. Warburton,	" 85,	Ware.
H. H. Underwood,	" 103,	Chicopee.
C. M. Moody,	" 120,	Greenfield.
A. Bassett,	" 98,	Pittsfield.
W. H. Dunville,	" 79,	N. Adams.
W. L. Gage,	" 87,	Braintree.
A. C. Sampson,	" 111,	Pembroke.
J. H. Whelan,	" 58,	E. Weymouth.
A. St. John Chambré,	" 72,	Stoughton.
F. Thayer,	" 55,	Taunton.
H. C. Alden,	" 110,	Randolph.
J. Silloway, Jr.,	" 94,	Canton.
W. Sanders,	" 1,	New Bedford.

Each Post in the Department which holds meetings has been inspected, and I think thoroughly; and by inspecting weak Posts early in the year we have been able to lend them a helping hand.

A few Posts are reported in poor condition.

I would recommend that something be done to revive these Posts, or the surrender of their charters be requested.

NEW POSTS.

Two have been organized during the past year: Post 70, Millbury, Post 99, W. Warren, and are reported in good condition and improving.

MEMBERSHIP.

One hundred and thirty-four Posts reported at date of inspection 9,300 members in good standing: Post 10 being the

largest, having 398 members; Post 34 the next, having 333 members; Posts 42, 39, 5, 35, being next in order. The Inspector's report of last year gave 127 Posts — 7,658 members.

RITUAL.

Ninety-nine Posts were reported as performing it properly, fourteen Posts as fairly, twenty-one Posts as poorly. In my opinion the Ritual has been better performed the past year than heretofore.

The officers of a few Posts are reported as not regular in attendance. Such Posts cannot perform the Ritual properly, and should demand of their officers proper attention to their duties. In 134 Posts the average amount charged for "muster-in" is \$2.59, and for quarterly dues 75 cents.

RELIEF FUND.

On the date of inspection, 99 Posts held relief funds amounting to \$48,031.08, Post 5 being the largest, having \$6,600. The relief funds are smaller at this time than later in the season, as the Posts will soon give entertainments, fairs, etc., which will increase the amount.

CHARITY.

One hundred and fifteen Posts have expended in charity for the year ending Sept. 30, 1876, \$26,207.88. Seventeen Posts were reported as expending nothing, and two Posts were reported as keeping no record of money expended in charity.

PROSPECT.

Eighty-seven Posts are reported in good condition, thirty of them as most excellent. Thirty Posts are reported in fair condition, and seventeen Posts in poor condition.

The Order, in my opinion, is in much better condition than one year since, more interest being shown, and the prospect for the ensuing year being excellent.

I will suggest to Post Commanders the propriety of placing on file orders as soon as received, as 121 are reported missing and have been supplied for the second time from Headquarters. Also the importance of keeping the black lists written up in full, including all rejections by other Posts; as I find several Posts keep only a record of their own rejections.

In conclusion I desire to acknowledge my obligations for the many courtesies received from the Commander and Department officers, Assistant Inspectors, and Post Commanders, which have lightened the duties of my office and rendered them pleasant.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.,

SAMUEL DALTON,

Inspector Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

BOSTON, Jan. 17, 1877.

Commander and Comrades:

I have the honor to present the following report of the Medical Department for the year 1876.

One hundred and fourteen (114) Posts have sent in reports. The total number reported as wounded in these Posts is one thousand two hundred and eighteen (1218). That is, more than nine per cent connected with our organization have been wounded in battle, a fact which shows that the Grand Army organization is not wholly made up of "bummers," as some folks have charitably hinted.

The late period at which these reports were received places it out of my power to make a detailed report to the Convention; but so far as I have examined them, they seem to have been made up with due care and painstaking, and at the earliest possible time I will furnish a full abstract to the Surgeon-General.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. SYMINGTON BROWN, M.D.,
Medical Director Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.

Chaplain Lovering surprised the Convention by making a report ("furnishing his own blanks"). The following is a copy:—

Comrades:

I have the honor to submit the following for the year ending this day:—

It has not been customary for the Chaplain of this Department to offer any report to the annual Convention. No blanks, as far as I have been able to ascertain, have been furnished by National Headquarters prescribing the method of any such report, nor has this Department been authorized by National Headquarters to forward to the Chaplains of Posts within its jurisdiction any instructions by which reports must be forwarded to Department Headquarters and there be consolidated. Such oversight or negligence deserves attention; for there is certain information that it is desirable to obtain, and which may hereafter prove of interest and importance to members of the Grand Army of the Republic.

During the past year I have attended eighteen gatherings of the Grand Army of the Republic, including three installations,

twelve camp-fires, an invitation to Department of New Hampshire, another to the Soldiers' Encampment at Portland, Me., and the grand parade of this Department. I have also delivered three memorial addresses—one at Brighton, May 28, one at Worcester on the afternoon of May 30, and one at Marlboro on the evening of May 30.

So far as such occasions have given me any opportunity to gain any familiarity with the character and spirit of the Grand Army of the Republic, I am able to state:—

First. That the Grand Army of the Republic is eminently social: there seems to be no lack, in the large majority of instances, of *esprit de corps*. The old camp songs still have the roll of the drum and the sound of the bugle in them. The old camp stories, though sometimes tinged with sad memories of the heroic dead whose names, blotted with tears below, are written on the roster of heaven in letters of fadeless light, have ringing through them the merry laugh that once enlivened the fatigue of the march or the monotony of the camp; while, if the old Casey tactics have been forgotten, the ability to eat a full ration, to drink coffee, and to pull at a pipe, remains unimpaired.

Second. The *morals* of the Grand Army of the Republic are just about what might be expected, ranging all the way from an ordinary dead gauge up to what is extraordinarily good. The last statement is based on a careful consideration of testimony which might be furnished by the Department Inspector and his able corps of assistants: the substance of such testimony being, that there are some good folks in bad company, and some bad folks in good company.

Third. The Department is thoroughly *patriotic*.

The memory of hardships endured, of perils braved, of gallant service performed, strengthens in every one a soldierly devotion to justice and right everywhere, and to the highest interests of the nation as it is founded on justice and right. The undying affection entertained for those whose graves are as altars deepens every year not only a profound sense of the priceless sacrifice by which the Union has been preserved, but also a resolution never to suffer their altars to be dishonored. This patriotism makes loyalty both a duty and an inspiration. It loves the country. It respects and guards the rights of the citizen. It reverences the country's flag. Let the Grand Army of the Republic hold to this character which it now possesses, and improve upon it, and there can be no doubt it shall continue to receive what it has in the past—the right to claim the goodwill, and gratitude, and respect of every true citizen of this American Republic.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. F. LOVERING,
Chaplain Department of Mass., G.A.R.

It was moved by Comrade Maxfield, Post 42, That a committee of ten be appointed to nominate a list of candidates for members of the Council of Administration, also delegates and alternates to National Encampment.

Appointed by the Chair as follows: Comrades Maxfield of Post 42, Eastman of 34, Scammel of 22, Fay of 43, Gleason of 63, Bigelow of 37, Frankle of 47, Babbitt of 10, Knight of 16, Cutler of 49.

Comrade Adams of Post 5 moved, That the delegates as reported by Post 5 be admitted to seats and representation in this Convention. Carried, and delegates were admitted.

Comrade McDonough of Post 7 moved, That the delegation from Post 7 have representation in this Convention. Objection being made, discussion followed relative as to which quarterly report Posts shall base their representation to Department Convention upon.

Comrade Rich of Post 26 offered the following motion: That the basis of representation to the Encampment shall be determined by the report for the quarter ending September 30. Carried.

Past Department Commander Underwood moved, That a committee of five be appointed, as a qualification committee, to hear the case of the twenty-one Posts excluded from the Convention. Amendment offered by Comrade Maxfield of Post 42, which was accepted, That the Council of Administration constitute that committee. Carried.

On motion of Comrade Dalton of Post 34, adjourned till 10 o'clock Thursday A.M.

THURSDAY, JAN. 18, 1877.

The Encampment assembled at 10 o'clock A.M. The roll of delegates was called. Prayer was offered by Chaplain Lovering. The Council of Administration, to whom was referred the cases of twenty-one Posts who had been deprived of representation in the Convention, offered the following report: That they had attended to that duty, and would respectfully report, that in the case of Post 60 the only informality was in making out the Surgeon's report on the old Form F, instead of the new. The delegate of this Post promises that the proper form will be made out, and we would recommend the admission of the delegate from Post 60.

Posts 134 and 139 have made their returns, and the Assistant Adjutant-General has placed their names on the rolls. The report was accepted and recommendation adopted.

The committee who were instructed to consider the several recommendations contained in the address of the Commander and report thereon, submitted the following report:—

BOSTON, Jan. 18, 1877.

To the Commander :

The Committee who were instructed to consider the several recommendations contained in the address of the Commander, and to report thereon, respectfully beg leave to report.

I. In regard to the establishment of a Soldiers' Home, your Committee agree that such an institution, if properly endowed and rightly conducted, would be of vast advantage to the disabled veterans of the Commonwealth, and credit to the patriotic and benevolent persons who would create and sustain it. While thus indorsing the general idea of such an institution and congratulating the Encampment upon the fact that the sum of \$3,000 has already been bequeathed for the purpose, your Committee find that a due consideration of such questions as the expediency of making appeals for funds in the present depressed state of business, the extent to which the Posts (already heavily drained by the local demands upon their means) should be called upon to carry on *this* work, whether or not the aid of the State shall be solicited, or accepted if tendered, and an inquiry into the course pursued in this direction by our comrades in other States, where homes have been established or contemplated, cannot be given by this Committee in the very limited time at their command; *they therefore recommend* that this Encampment commit the subject of establishing a Soldiers' Home to a special committee of seven, who shall consider the subject and report at their earliest convenience to the Council of Administration, who shall have full powers to carry out recommendations of the Committee at their discretion.

II. The Committee approve the suggestions of the Commander, that steps be taken to secure from the State an act of incorporation for the Department organization; to that end the Commander be authorized to adopt such measures as he may think proper to obtain such an act.

III. Inasmuch as the Rules and Regulations (always made by the National Encampment) deal with the subject of sureties by the Department Staff officers, the Committee believe the Department ought not to make provision for that purpose. We, therefore, advise that no action be taken upon the recommendation that bonds be required of the Assistant Adjutant-General.

IV. The Committee believe that a fund at Headquarters for relief purposes would be very convenient in relieving the temporary distress of soldiers; but in the limited time at the disposition of the Committee, no

plan has been suggested for raising any sum for the purpose; and they, therefore, recommend that the subject be referred to the Council of Administration with full powers.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY R. SIBLEY,
JACOB SILLOWAY, Jr.,
JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
JOHN A. G. RICHARDSON,
J. FRANK DALTON,
J. B. LAMB,
B. S. LOVELL,

Committee.

Comrade Fox, Post 68, moved, That the report of the Committee be accepted and laid on the table. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that we proceed to the election of Department Commander for the ensuing year. Carried.

Comrade Bailey, Post 11, moved the re-election of the present Commander, and that the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to cast one ballot for Horace Binney Sargent for Commander of this Department for the ensuing year.

Motion by Comrade Atwood, Post 40, That a committee of five be appointed to receive, assort, and count ballots for Department Commander. Comrades Atwood of Post 40, Potter of 86, Corcoran of 56, Morton of 61, and Fellows of 35, were appointed.

By Comrade Fox, Post 68, That a committee of five be appointed to receive, assort, and count ballots for Senior Vice-Commander. Past Department Commander Cogswell moved the nomination of Comrade Geo. S. Evans for Senior Vice-Commander, seconded by Past Department Commander Underwood. Amendment offered by Comrade Maxfield, Post 42, That the Assistant Adjutant-General cast one ballot for Geo. S. Evans for Senior Vice-Commander. Comrade Hinds, Post 15, objecting to the method of election, the following committee were appointed: Comrades Fox of Post 68, Kinnear of 30, Emery of 26, Sloan of 37, Gleason of 77.

By Comrade Churchill, Post 10, That a committee of five be appointed to collect, assort, and count votes for Junior Vice-Commander, Comrades Churchill of Post 10, Locke of 12, Simpson of 142, Kelly of 15, and Rust of 16, were appointed.

The committee appointed to collect, assort, and count votes for Commander reported: —

Whole number of votes cast	218
Necessary for a choice	110
Comrade Richardson, Post 42	2
“ Hill, “ 139	2
“ Cogswell, “ 34	3
“ Simmons, “ 15	3
“ Green, “	7
“ Sargent, “ 15	203

And Horace Binney Sargent was declared elected.

Commander Sargent was then introduced, and addressed the Convention, expressing his thanks for the high honor conferred, and signified his acceptance of the office of Commander of the Department of Massachusetts for the ensuing year.

The ballot for Senior Vice-Commander resulted as follows: —

Whole number of votes cast	215
Necessary for a choice	108
Comrade Barnes, Post 35	1
“ Butts, ...	1
“ Dalton, “ 34	1
“ Pickering, ...	1
“ Hill, “ 139	4
“ Evans, “ 30	207

And George S. Evans was declared elected.

Past Department Commander Sibley called for report of committee appointed to bring in a list of candidates for Council of Administration and delegates and alternates to National Encampment. Laid on table.

The ballot for Junior Vice-Commander resulted as follows: —

Whole number of votes cast	213
Necessary for a choice	107
Comrade Barnes, Post 35	1
“ Hill, “ 139	1
“ Patch, “ 142	211

And George H. Patch was declared elected.

Comrade Fox of Post 68 moved, That the Assistant Adjutant-General cast one ballot for Comrade W. S. Brown, of Post 75, for Medical Director; and in accordance, the Assistant Adjutant-General cast one ballot, and Comrade Brown was declared elected.

By Comrade Emery of Post 26, That the Assistant Adjutant-General deposit one ballot for J. F. Lovering of Post 81, for Chaplain. The ballot was cast, and Comrade Lovering was elected Chaplain.

The report of committee on nomination of candidates for Council of Administration and delegates and alternates to National Encampment, was taken from the table. Comrade Barnes of Post 35 called for a reading of the list of delegates and alternates. Granted, as follows:—

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.		ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.	
H. B. Peirce,	Post 73	W. H. Dunville,	Post 79
DELEGATES.		ALTERNATES.	
J. A. G. Richardson,	Post 42	G. C. Fiske,	Post 18
Emerson Stone,	" 37	F. L. Harmon,	" 99
J. B. Lamb, -	" 10	W. F. Hutchins,	" 144
Arthur M. Holt,	" 39	F. O. Barnes,	" 35
D. O. Judd,	" 16	G. V. Bangs,	" 103
E. T. Colby,	" 49	E. A. Stone,	" 56
J. S. Fay,	" 43	J. F. Searle,	" 24
Wm. Watts,	" 3	H. P. Woodbury,	" 89
Geo. H. Hoyt,	" 123	Geo. E. Burgess,	" 9

Comrade Sibley, Post 11, moved, That we proceed to the election of members of Council of Administration, and that they be acted upon one by one. Discussion followed, and Comrade Butler, Post 7, moved they be elected by acclamation. Objection made and further discussion followed. Comrade Bailey, Post 11, then moved, That we proceed to ballot for the five members on one ballot. Motion lost.

Offered by Comrade Maxfield, Post 42, That a committee of five be appointed to receive and count ballots for the above; and the following-named comrades were appointed: Maxfield of 42, Bailey of 11, McLaughlin of 40, Robinson of 10, Crane of 22.

The report of the Committee on the Election of Council of Administration reported:—

Whole number of votes cast		115
Necessary for a choice		58
Comrade Emery,	Post 26	. . 111
" Adams,	" 5	. . 110
" John McKay, Jr.,	" 7	. . 110
" Cartwright,	" 47	. . 93
" Wilcox,	" 22	. . 109

At 12.30 o'clock the Convention adjourned for half an hour, and the delegates were entertained with a substantial collation, provided by the Posts of Boston and vicinity.

The report of committee to whom was referred the Commander's address was taken from the table.

Comrade Bailey, Post 11, moved, That the report of the committee be referred to the Council of Administration, with full powers.

Past Department Commander Sibley discussed the matter at length. In the course of debate, Commander Sargent took the floor and spoke in a forcible manner, and heartily indorsed the motion of Comrade Bailey.

Comrade Simmons, Post 15, followed in earnest remarks, and believed there was no better man in the Commonwealth to carry out the project of establishing a Soldiers' Home than Comrade Sargent. Past Department Commanders Cogswell, Underwood, and Comrade Fox warmly sustained Commander Sargent in his project, and advocated the calling of another Convention next summer. The motion of Comrade Bailey was then put and carried, and the matter was referred.

Comrade Cogswell hoped that the matter relative to the calling of a Convention during the summer would be well considered by the Council, and report in July.

On motion the Assistant Adjutant-General was instructed to cast one ballot for the list of delegates and alternates. Carried.

By Comrade Fay, Post 7, That the thanks of this Convention be extended to the retiring officers of this Department. Carried.

Comrade Sibley, Post 11, offered the following motion: That there be a session in July of this year of this Department.

Amended by Comrade Patch, Post 142, that the date of meeting be left to the discretion of Council of Administration.

The following was offered, as the sense of this Convention: That there be a semi-annual session of this Encampment held during the coming summer, at such time and place as the Commander, with the consent of the Council of Administration, may determine. The question was called for and the motion carried.

By Comrade Emery, Post 26, That we proceed to the installation of the officers-elect.

Past Department Commander Cogswell proceeded with the installation of the officers-elect in their respective offices.

A motion by Comrade Adams, Post 5, That a vote of thanks be extended to the officer of the day and the officer of the guard, and the delegation of Post 15, for the voluntary services they so satisfactorily performed, was carried. Proposition for a State Encampment was laid on the table, and the Convention voted to adjourn.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1876.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Jan. 26, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 1. }

I. Having been duly elected and installed as Commander of this Department for the ensuing year, I hereby assume the duties of my office and greet with soldierly affection and respect my old companions in arms.

Comrades: With a grateful heart I thank you for the unanimity with which you have conferred a cherished honor on me and on John A. Andrew Post, to which I belong. With your assistance, I hope that this year our National Jubilee will make more and more conspicuous both your claims upon the nation and your moral power as the Grand Army of the living Republic.

Comrades: It is our duty to enlist the pride of every soldier of Massachusetts and recruit our ranks. Let every one of us convince some veteran, not now a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, that the mass and dignity of our association add to the weight of the whole veteran element in society. An asylum for the needy, the Grand Army of the Republic is also a fortress against the forgetfulness or indifference of the world. Let us strengthen this fortress by gathering into our ranks every brave veteran—all the character, intellect, and distinction that we may. It is a duty to prove, not only that our hearts were dauntless and true, but also, that all the brains of the nation did not stay at home.

Comrades: Never forgetting that the great object of our Order is charity, we must never forget that the extent of our charities depends largely on the imposing front that we show in our grand march of true soldierly brotherhood—helping the weak, raising the fallen, succoring the needy families of our tentmates dead, binding up the despondent soldier's breaking heart, and maintaining our motherland in the eternal possession of every right that, through tears and blood, she has won.

II. Comrade Charles Wood Thompson is hereby appointed Assistant Adjutant-General, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Future orders will announce other appointments on the Staff.

III. The office hours of the Assistant Adjutant-General will be from 10 A.M. to 12 M., and from 2 to 4 P.M., except on Sundays and Saturday afternoons, when the office will be closed.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

CHAS. W. THOMPSON,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.**Commander.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, March 8, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 2. }

I. The following comrades are announced upon the Staff of the Commander and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: —

OFFICIAL STAFF.

Edward T. Raymond of Post 10, Worcester, Assistant Quarter-master-General.

Samuel Dalton of Post 34, Salem, Inspector.

William Cogswell of Post 34, Salem, Judge Advocate.

Henry Wilson, Jr., of Post 35, Chelsea, Chief Mustering Officer.

PERSONAL STAFF.

A. B. R. Sprague of Post 10, Worcester, Aide-de-Camp.

Emerson Stone of Post 37, Spencer, “

D. H. L. Gleason of Post 63, Natick, “

Arnold A. Rand of Post 144, Dedham, “

George H. Teague of Post 12, Wakefield, “

Andrew J. Bailey of Post 11, Charlestown, “

Charles H. Rust of Post 16, Springfield, “

William F. Harrington of Post 98, Pittsfield, “

A. A. Smith of Post 20, Colrain, “

Edwin A. Morse of Post 10, Worcester, “

Albert Wood of Post 10, Worcester, “

M. E. Walker of Post 28, West Boylston, “

II. A list of the officers elected at the Annual Encampment of this Department at Lawrence, January 19 and 20, appears in the “Roster” accompanying this order.

III. The Department Commander calls the especial attention of Post Commanders to General Orders No. 6, Series 1875, from National Headquarters, in relation to the returns on the amended form of surgeons' reports, which must be completed at once, to include the names of all wounded or disabled comrades in good standing on the rolls Dec. 31, 1875. These returns are required to be forwarded to these Headquarters on or before the first day of April, 1876, as the Surgeon-General must have them to consolidate in season to present to the next National Encampment. The amended blank returns can be obtained upon application to Department Headquarters.

IV. All official correspondence will be signed by Post Commanders and addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

CHAS. W. THOMPSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, March 20, 1876.

Comrade:

Information has been received from Headquarters Centennial Committee, at Philadelphia, that arrangements can now be made for the accommodation of this Department on the occasion of its proposed visit to that city at the coming Centennial celebration. It is important that

the Committee should know at once, as nearly as possible, the probable number that will go in this Department. A building is to be erected within easy walking distance of the Centennial buildings and the railroad depots, fitted up with comfortable bunks, each containing pillow and mattress, at an expense not exceeding fifty cents per night to the lodger. The building will also contain smaller rooms for the accommodation of officers, for which a moderate advance will be charged. Restaurants in the building, where a good square meal can be procured for fifty cents; thus making the daily expense per man, two dollars. Parties will not be obliged to take their meals in the building, but can get them where they like.

Transportation will soon be secured at a reasonably low rate, and it is actually necessary that some definite information should be had as to the number who propose going with this Department to Philadelphia, as everything now rests upon such information.

Post Commanders are urgently requested to ascertain at once what number of comrades of their respective Posts can be counted on to go, and how long such comrades propose to stay in Philadelphia, — whether one week, more or less, — and forward such information to these Headquarters, with the least possible delay, in order that a report may be made to the Centennial Committee, giving them satisfactory assurances on the part of this Department on which they can base their arrangements.

It would be gratifying to the Commander of this Department to be assured of a cordial and prompt response from the comrades composing this Department to the suggestions of the Commander-in-Chief, contained in National Encampment General Orders No. 10 (C.S.)

Yours in F., C., and L.,

CHAS. W. THOMPSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, April 14, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 3. }

I. This Department will leave Boston for Philadelphia on the 28th of June next, to attend the National Encampment on June 30 and the Encampment parade on Saturday, July 1; and will return on Monday, July 3, arriving in Boston July 4th. The expense of through ticket for the round trip — going and returning — will be eleven dollars per man, which will include the pay and expenses of a band for every five hundred men. The charges for lodging will be fifty cents, or one dollar, per night, according to the accommodations. Meals are promised at fifty cents each.

All details of assembly and movement will be given in future orders.

II. Every Post Commander is required to convene his Post at once, with full notice, to insure attendance, and will within fifteen days from this date report to these Headquarters how many members of his Post will join the column, which will consist of Posts.

After full consideration by the Commander and the Council of Administration, it has been decided that neither companies nor regiments are recognized by the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

CHAS. W. THOMPSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, April 22, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 4. }

I. The following-named comrades are hereby appointed Assistant Inspectors for the districts herein named and will be obeyed and respected accordingly :—

District No. 1, H. A. Wright, Boston Highlands, Posts 23, 134, 68, 113, 125, 88.

- “ “ 2, W. A. West, East Boston, Posts 11, 15, 35, 7, 32.
- “ “ 3, J. W. Hartt, Salem, Posts 5, 45, 67, 89, 90.
- “ “ 4, W. L. Baird, Lynn, Posts 34, 95, 118, 82, 132.
- “ “ 5, D. Johnson, Jr., Lawrence, Posts 42, 49, 114, 122, 151.
- “ “ 6, Tristram Talbot, Newburyport, Posts 39, 47, 101, 102, 108.
- “ “ 7, George E. Filkins, Boston, Posts 149, 26, 92, 56, 143.
- “ “ 8, M. C. Beedle, Cambridge, Posts 57, 30, 33, 139, 148.
- “ “ 9, A. P. Barrett, Woburn, Posts 4, 12, 66, 75, 40.
- “ “ 10, J. P. Houghton, Newton, Posts 29, 62, 81, 119.
- “ “ 11, W. H. Brown, Holliston, Posts 6, 14, 18, 63.
- “ “ 12, J. F. Dolan, Hudson, Posts 9, 43, 86, 96.
- “ “ 13, D. A. Partridge, W. Medway, Posts 22, 105, 117.
- “ “ 14, W. W. Scott, Worcester, Posts 10, 24, 77, 135, 136.
- “ “ 15, A. S. Davidson, Clinton, Posts 28, 54, 59, 64.
- “ “ 16, E. P. Morton, Webster, Posts 25, 27, 60, 61.
- “ “ 17, John Phillips, Fitchburg, Posts 19, 48, 50, 53, 69, 115.
- “ “ 18, J. W. Wallace, Templeton, Posts 17, 107, 109, 116, 123.
- “ “ 19, George R. Ladd, Spencer, Posts 37, 38, 51, 131.
- “ “ 20, Aaron Warburton, Ware, Posts 65, 85, 97, 100.
- “ “ 21, H. H. Underwood, Chicopee, Posts 16, 41, 71, 80, 103.
- “ “ 22, C. M. Moody, Greenfield, Posts 20, 36, 84, 93, 120.
- “ “ 23, Almon Barrett, Pittsfield, Posts 79, 98, 126, 130.
- “ “ 24, W. L. Gage, Braintree, Posts 58, 87, 104.
- “ “ 25, H. C. Sampson, Pembroke, Posts 31, 83, 111, 112, 127.
- “ “ 26, J. A. Wheelan, East Weymouth, Posts 13, 74, 76, 124.
- “ “ 27, A. St. John Chambré, Franklin, Posts 8, 52, 73, 78, 110.
- “ “ 28, H. C. Alden, Randolph, Posts 72, 91, 121, 144.
- “ “ 29, Frederick Thayer, Taunton, Posts 3, 55, 133, 145.
- “ “ 30, Wm. Saunders, New Bedford, Posts 1, 46, 129, 146.

II. Acting Assistant Inspectors are hereby relieved from further duty, with the thanks of the Department Commander for their services, and all orders inconsistent with the foregoing appointments are hereby annulled.

* * * * *

IV. The Department Commander calls the attention of Post Commanders to Paragraph III., General Orders No. 9, from National Headquarters, Feb. 15, 1876, and Paragraph III., General Orders No. 2, from these Headquarters, March, 1876; and all those who have not complied with the instructions therein contained are expected to do so at once.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

CHAS. W. THOMPSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, May 5, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 5. }

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations, and in compliance with General Orders No. 11 (C.S.) from National Headquarters, G.A.R., Tuesday, the 30th inst., will be observed as Memorial Day, by the Comrades of this Department of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Comrades: The flying years, that diminish the number of survivors in our ranks, increase our individual responsibility to the living and the dead — that a soldier's name be never tarnished, and a soldier's grave be never forgotten. Fewer, every year, assemble to utter tenderly our pledge of soldierly affection: more and more gather out of silence and mystery to hear it. From us, the men who have fought the battles of the Republic by our side have never received neglect or coldness. Our gratitude to them shall never die.

On this next Memorial Day, let us assemble the orphan girls of our comrades and escort them to the graves of their heroic sires, that gentle and loving hands may strew the simple flowers which our lessened means enable us to bestow. Let us ask the churches of the land to devote the collection of one Sunday in the year to the memory of those who died that a christian country might live.

Comrades: It is but fifteen years since the great War Governor of Massachusetts, John Albion Andrew, thrilled us through and through with the grand words: "From the bottom of my heart of hearts, as the official representative of Massachusetts, I pay to you, soldiers, citizens, and heroes, the homage of my most profound gratitude; and the heart of all Massachusetts beats with full sympathy to every word I utter." These words are our joint heritage of glory. Let the soldier-citizens of the Republic that they defended engrave them, with his sweet memory, upon their hearts, and bear them proudly aloft upon their banners, in the solemn march to the graves of our companions in arms.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

CHAS. W. THOMPSON,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, May 12, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 6. }

Comrade Charles Wood Thompson is hereby relieved from duty at these Headquarters as Assistant Adjutant-General, and ordered to report to his Post.

Comrade Edward T. Raymond is hereby appointed Acting Assistant Adjutant-General until further orders, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Official:

E. T. RAYMOND,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, May 18, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 7. }

I. Comrade James F. Meech is hereby appointed Assistant Adjutant-General of this Department, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. Comrade Edward T. Raymond is hereby relieved from duty as Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, and receives the thanks of the Commander for the efficiency and promptness of his temporary services as Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, May 18, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 8. }

I. Comrade S. C. Parsons of Lawrence is appointed Assistant Inspector for District 5, and Comrade Jacob Silloway of Canton is appointed Assistant Inspector for District 28, in place of Comrades H. C. Alden and D. Johnson, Jr., who have declined to serve.

II. As a misunderstanding in regard to countersigns seems to exist, and there is no Department countersign, the National countersign will be delivered at the outer door, and the Post countersign at the inner door of each Post. Assistant Inspectors will see that this form for all Posts in this Department is strictly followed.

III. Assistant Inspectors will be thorough in all their inspections and report all Posts as they actually are.

IV. Post Commanders are reminded that they must promptly report to these Headquarters the number of members of each Post who propose to attend the Centennial parade at Philadelphia. In default of this information, accommodations cannot be properly secured in advance. Additional circulars are herewith inclosed, and immediate attention to General Orders No. 3 is required.

Per order of
 HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, June 1, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 9. }

I. Information having been received at these Headquarters that circulars of a political character have been addressed to Post Commanders as such by political clubs, for the purpose of using this organization in a manner entirely improper, the attention of Post Commanders is hereby called to Article XI., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations. No political circulars in favor of any candidate of any party must be distributed by or through this organization.

II. To verify the books of this Department, the Commander of each Post is ordered to send in at once to these Headquarters, on the inclosed blank, a correct statement of all moneys that have been transmitted to these Headquarters since Jan. 20, 1876, by each Post respectively. The statement must include all moneys for dues and supplies since said date.

III. Post Commanders are reminded that all requisitions for supplies should be made on blanks furnished for that purpose, and must be approved by Post Commanders. Also, that all official communications to these Headquarters should be addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General, signed by the proper officers, and written on a letter sheet capable of being placed on file.

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By order of
 HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, June 8, 1876.

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 10. }

I. In accordance with change of programme announced in General Orders No. 12 from National Headquarters, herewith transmitted, by which Monday, July 3, is substituted for Saturday, July 1, as the day of the National Encampment Parade of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Philadelphia, and by which a grand Grand Army of the Republic and veteran parade is ordered at Schuetzen Park, Philadelphia, July 5.

General Orders No. 3 of this Department is so far countermanded only as to substitute Thursday, July 6, for Monday, July 3, as the day when this Department will leave Philadelphia on its return, to arrive in Boston on Friday, July 7. Comrades wishing to return before the 7th will find their excursion railroad tickets good. Immediate attention of all Posts in this Department to the circulars herewith transmitted, and immediate response as to their intention to visit Philadelphia, is desired, to secure accommodation.

II. Post Commanders must see that all orders received are kept on the files of the Posts for inspection at all times.

By order of
 HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS.,
 ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7,
 BOSTON, June 21, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 11. }

This Department will leave Boston for Philadelphia at 6 o'clock P.M. Wednesday, the twenty-eighth day of June, from the Boston and Providence Railroad Station, *via* Stonington. All delegates, officers, and members of this Department are invited to appear promptly at the time and place specified, and take the train without further notice.

Tickets for the round trip, at nine dollars each, and good for thirty days, can be furnished on application to the Assistant Adjutant-General at these Headquarters in Boston.

Headquarters during the stay of this Department in Philadelphia will be at the Colonnade Hotel, Chestnut, corner South 15th Street.

All Posts and members intending to take part in the Encampment parade will report promptly on their arrival to the Assistant Adjutant-General.

All officers will provide themselves with full uniforms and swords, and be prepared to appear, mounted, July 3d, for which, on application, horses will be furnished. A full staff is desired.

To insure good accommodations, all members intending to accompany the Department should notify the Assistant Adjutant-General previous to June 27.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7,
 BOSTON, Aug. 6, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 12. }

I. At a meeting of the Council of Administration of this Department, held June 21, 1876, Comrade J. G. B. Adams of Lynn was unanimously elected a member of the Council, *vice* Comrade J. F. Meech, resigned.

II. Commanders of Posts who have neglected to send in their quarterly reports for the quarter ending June 30, 1876, are reminded of their duty. The report of the whole Department to National Headquarters is embarrassed by this neglect. The reports from delinquent Posts must be forwarded at once.

III. Comrade J. Frank Makee of Post 62, Newton, is hereby appointed Assistant Inspector of the 10th District, *vice* Houghton, resigned. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Aug. 30, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 13. }

A parade of all the Posts of this Department is hereby ordered, in the city of Boston, at 12 o'clock M., on Wednesday the 11th day of October, 1876.

A full exhibition of the strength of the Department is deemed important to the interests of the Order and the special charity referred to in the circular annexed. All details of the parade will be given in future orders.

Commanders of Posts will at once convene their Posts and transmit at the earliest possible day to the Assistant Adjutant-General a statement of the number of men that each Post will bring into line for this first Department parade, in this historic year.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

(Circular Supplementary to General Order No. 13.)

CONFIDENTIAL TO POSTS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Aug. 30, 1876. }

Mr. Commander and Comrades:

It must have been apparent to you that the public tone has been materially affected by the great camp-fire of May 10, 1876, in Faneuil Hall. The sudden apparition of four thousand men at nightfall, in the streets of Boston, their soldierly manner, their vigorous protest against injustice, and their quiet retirement when their words were said and their work was done, excited no little surprise, admiration, and respect. It proved that the Grand Army was an honest and fearless power in the social life of Massachusetts.

It has been thought well by the Council of Administration to take advantage of this juster sentiment, and strike the chord again, and now, in aid of the suffering soldiers of the Commonwealth. Other states and nations hold their maimed and disabled heroes as their dearest wards. They are heroes and not paupers.

Our members, able to aid, are getting fewer and our resources are diminishing, at the same time that the calls on us through age and increased disability are increasing. The civilians must come more largely to our aid. We require a Home with some hospital facilities for the soldiers and the sailors who lost health and almost life under the battle-flags of the nation. We want such a home in Massachusetts for Massachusetts men who wish to live and die on their native soil. For the want of such an institution, legacies, which patriotic people of this Commonwealth would have gladly left to such a home, have been diverted or lost for want of an inheriting existence and name.

To inaugurate such a charity and to excite the attention of the citizens, it has been deemed proper to make the greatest possible demonstration of the numbers and character of our Order by a Department parade on the 11th of October, 1876. It is expected that the disabled veterans of our Order will be escorted in conveyances in our column, that the public may refresh their memory of all that has been done and suffered.

The route of march will be effective and short. A simple and substantial collation will be provided by the Committee of Arrangements. Railroads are expected to furnish tickets at reduced rates.

The importance of impressing the public with our numbers and deserts is such, that Posts are earnestly desired to recruit in every reasonable way. No exertion will be spared by your Commander to make the burdens on you as little as possible. But it must rest with you to say whether this demonstration of the Grand Army of the Republic shall be such as to command the attention of our charitable fellow citizens and prevent forever the insulting question, "Who and what are the Grand Army of the Republic?" Let an enormous column in our first Department parade answer, and a prompt response to your appeals for charity will be assured.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7,
BOSTON, Sept. 15, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 14. }

The Department Commander is extremely gratified that the first Department parade, on October 11, is welcomed with a spirit of harmony that recognizes, with true soldierly enthusiasm, the grandeur of our purpose. No effort must be spared to fill the marching ranks and the wagons of our invalids. The poorest cripple of the Grand Army of the Republic deserves the public respect and regard for duty nobly done; and the public will surely help those who show themselves strong enough to help themselves and each other. Let it never forget the 11th of October, 1876; make our column an appeal for charity.

The parade will be in two divisions, under the command of the Senior and Junior Vice-Commanders respectively.

The subdivisions will be by counties and the units of subdivisions will be Posts.

Any county desiring to parade as such, under a Commander to be elected by the Posts of the county and approved by the Department Commander, can do so, and is desired to make its selection and report at once, that a general order may be immediately issued.

Each commander of subdivisions will be entitled to appoint his own staff of not more than six. It is recommended that every personal consideration in these elections or appointments be subordinated to organizing ability, energy, and enthusiasm in the success of this first public demonstration of the Grand Army of the Republic.

All communications in regard to horses, equipments, barges for invalid comrades, and all matters of detail, are to be addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General. For the convenience of referring each communication promptly to the proper officer detailed for special work, each letter should refer to one subject only.

Other details will be announced as soon as possible in further orders.

Posts are reminded that a delay in notifying these Headquarters of the number of comrades intending to report for duty will greatly retard preparation.

Every Post is expected to be represented in line, and the largest representation of each Post is desired.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Sept. 27, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 15. }

The Grand Army Posts of the counties of Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden, Worcester, and Middlesex will constitute the First Division, under the command of Senior Vice-Commander J. L. Skinner of Amherst.

The Posts of the counties of Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Plymouth, and Bristol will constitute the Second Division under the command of Junior Vice-Commander Herbert E. Hill of Somerville.

Division Commanders will at once appoint their staffs and organize their commands for the Department parade in Boston, on the 11th of October next.

Comrade M. B. Lakeman of Malden is hereby appointed Commander of the Middlesex County subdivision.

Comrade O. F. Nims of Boston is hereby appointed Commander of the Suffolk County subdivision. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Further appointments of subdivision commanders will be announced in future orders. Counties that have not organized and nominated their commanders for approval at these Headquarters should at once do so.

All details in regard to transportation and rendezvous will be announced as soon as possible. Posts should at once report to the Assistant Adjutant-General the number of invalids requiring carriages for the march.

There will be no assessment upon Posts for the collation, which will consist of an abundant ration of sandwiches and coffee, to be served out to every man in line before the hour of parade.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Sept. 30, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 16. }

I. The attention of commanders, adjutants, and quartermasters of Posts is called to the importance of preparing and forwarding to these Headquarters the quarterly reports of Posts on the first days of January, April, July, and October. It is imperative that this should be done promptly, as the reports have to be consolidated and forwarded to National Headquarters "within twenty days after the beginning of each quarter." To avoid accident and loss, all remittances for dues, supplies, etc., to these Headquarters should be by express, money order, registered letter, draft or check, payable to the order of the Assistant Adjutant-General.

II. The attention of Post commanders and surgeons is called to "Circular No. 1" and "Blank" inclosed, from National Headquarters, and especially to paragraphs 5 and 10 of the circular.

III. The following additional appointments of Aides-de-Camp are made on the Staff of the Department Commander: Gardner A. Churchill of Post 68; Charles H. Pew, 2d, of Post 45; Charles G. Davis of Post 26, and John McKay, Jr., of Post 7. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
	608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
GENERAL ORDERS }	BOSTON, Oct. 5, 1876. }
No. 17. }	

Comrades Josiah Pickett of Worcester and Nathaniel Shatswell of Ipswich have been elected and approved as Commanders of the Worcester and Essex County subdivisions respectively. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The Posts of the County of Norfolk having failed to organize as a county, Comrade Thomas Sherwin of Post 144, Dedham, is hereby appointed Commander of Norfolk County subdivision. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The order of formation at the Department parade of the Grand Army of the Republic, on the 11th of October, 1876, will be as follows, the positions of counties, desiring to parade as such, having been assigned by lot drawn in a meeting of the Council of Administration:—

The First Division will form on the side streets on the west side of Washington Street, Boston, with its right resting on the intersection of West Brookline and Washington Streets.

The Posts of Middlesex County will form on West Brookline, West Newton and Rutland Streets; Worcester County on West Concord and Worcester Streets, with the right resting on the intersection of West Concord and Washington Streets; Hampden, Hampshire, Berkshire, and Franklin on West Springfield Street, in the order named, with right resting on Washington Street.

The Second Division will form on the side streets of the east side of Washington Street, Boston, with its right resting on the intersection of East Brookline and Washington Streets. The Posts of Suffolk County will form on East Brookline and East Newton Streets, with right at the intersection of East Brookline and Washington Streets; Norfolk County on East Concord Street, with right on Washington Street; Bristol and Plymouth in the order named, on Worcester Square, with right on Washington Street; Essex on East Springfield Street, with right on Washington Street.

Carriages with invalids will form in line, from Washington Street to Harrison Avenue, on north side of Chester Park. Invalids will report there to Comrade Geo. S. Evans of the Council of Administration.

The commands will be in line on their respective streets of formation at 11 o'clock A.M., with opened ranks, facing inward, to admit the passage of quartermaster's wagons between the ranks. Rations will be served at once to every man in line.

At 12 o'clock precisely the command will move, by column of platoons of twelve files front with a guide in the following order: The First Division, consisting of Middlesex, Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Berkshire, and Franklin Counties, in the order named. The carriages will promptly follow the rear of the First Division. The Second Division will follow the carriages in the order named: Suffolk, Norfolk, Bristol, Plymouth, Essex.

The route of the parade will be from Brookline Square, through Washington Street, Chester Square, Columbus Avenue, Park Square, Boylston, Tremont, Winter, Summer, Arch, Franklin, Broad, State, Washington, School, Beacon, Dartmouth Streets and Commonwealth Avenue to Arlington Street, where the command will be dismissed.

All railroads centering in Boston have consented to grant half fare to Posts coming in uniform, and to their musicians. The arrangement as to trains, their arrival and departure, whether regular or special, will be left exclusively to Posts.

The Department anticipates from this parade a great and lasting benefit to the charitable needs of our comrades. Though it is probably unnecessary to make the suggestion, the power that a single comrade has to prejudice the good name of the Order renders it the imperative duty of Post Commanders to discourage any conduct prejudicial to the good order and discipline that veterans should maintain.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Oct. 6, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 18. }

I. Plymouth County having organized and reported the name of Comrade Chas. F. Allen of Abington, as Commander, the nomination is hereby approved. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

So much of the sixth clause of General Order No. 17 as assigns relative positions to Bristol and Plymouth Counties is hereby countermanded. Plymouth and Bristol Counties, in the order named, will form on Worcester Square, with the right on Washington Street.

II. Each commander of subdivisions will at once appoint one member of his staff to serve as assistant quartermaster-general, who will immediately, on his arrival, report to the Department Quartermaster-General, E. T. Raymond, at his Headquarters, which will be at Franklin Square, Washington Street.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Nov. 25, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 19. }

I. Attention is called to circular inclosed, from National Headquarters, dated October 9. Posts are earnestly desired to subscribe for one copy each of the work referred to in circular, as a most important part of the history and decisions of the Order. A copy can be seen at these Headquarters. Subscriptions must be sent in at once.

II. Posts must bear in mind that the first, and not the last, meeting in December is the time appointed for election of Post officers and representatives to the Department Encampment. See Order No. 5, inclosed.

III. The order announcing mustering officers will be issued early in December, and the Chief will be governed by the wishes of Posts in their selection when practicable. Recommendations must be forwarded immediately.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7,
BOSTON, Dec. 23, 1876. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 20. }

I. The Annual Encampment of this Department will be convened in Amory Hall (corner Washington and West Streets), Boston, on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1877, at 7 o'clock P.M., for the election of Department officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before it. Posts are entitled to the following ratio of representation: One delegate for every fifty members reported in good standing, with one additional for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to at least one delegate. Post Commanders are members of the Encampment by virtue of their office.

II. The Commander of Post 15 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and at least six Sentinels for duty during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General at 6.30 P.M. on the 17th, for instructions.

III. The Adjutant's, Quartermaster's, and Surgeon's Reports, together with all dues and a list of delegates and alternates to Department Encampment, should be forwarded to these Headquarters on or before Jan. 10, 1877. The Rules require the exclusion from the Encampment of any Post failing to make complete returns, especially Surgeon's report on the new Form F. Every Post has received one of the Surgeon's blanks, which is to be filled out in accordance with Circular No. 1, dated Aug. 15, 1876, from the Surgeon-General's Office. This blank is to be copied into the Medical Descriptive Book, which is to be retained by the Post; and the above blank is to be transmitted with the Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports to these Headquarters. These instructions from National Headquarters are peremptory.

IV. The following-named comrades are hereby designated as Mustering Officers and will install the officers of the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

F. C. Luce, New Bedford, 1, 146; H. E. Hill, Somerville, 5; A. M. Parker, Worcester, 10, 70; B. S. Lovell, East Weymouth, 13; D. G. Macnamara, Boston, 15; J. W. Kimball, Fitchburg, 19, 53; William Muldoon, East Cambridge, 29; J. L. Parker, Woburn, 33, 75; J. G. B. Adams, Lynn, 34, 73; J. D. Cogswell, Leicester, 37, 131; Geo. S. Merrill, Lawrence, 39; J. P. Maxfield, Lowell, 42, 102; A. M. Page, Marlboro', 43; J. M. Goodrich, Amesbury, 49, 122; John McKay, Jr., Boston, 56; H. B. Peirce, Abington, 58, 66; H. H. Hitchcock, West Warren, 65; I. H. Edgett, Beverly, 67, 89; C. D. Nash, South Abington, 78, 127; Geo. L. Rice, North Adams, 79, 126; J. C. Knights, Hanover, 83, 111; Wm. G. Sheen, Quincy, 88; J. W. Barnard, Danvers, 90; J. G. Leach, Warren, 99; E. B. Blasland, Boston, 113, 125; S. C. Parsons, Lawrence, 114, 151; E. J. Cushing, South Gardner, 116; Wm. H. Hildreth, Peabody, 132; Thomas Sherwin, Boston, 144.

The officers of Posts 7 and 35 will be installed by the Chief Mustering Officer, Henry Wilson, Jr., and those of Post 68 by the Assistant Adjutant-General.

In case of the absence of the comrade designated above for any Post, and where no comrade has been assigned, the senior Past Post Commander present will act.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Dec. 20, 1876. }

TO POST COMMANDERS.

Comrades: Please have a perfect understanding with your adjutants, quartermasters, and surgeons concerning their reports, that they shall hand them to you instead of forwarding direct to Headquarters.

Please see that they agree in every particular; also, that the Surgeon's report is properly made on the new Form F, copied into the Medical Descriptive Book, — which is to be the retained copy and record of the Post, — and the new form approved by you and forwarded with the adjutant's and quartermaster's reports, together with the dues and a list of delegates and alternates to the Department Encampment; also, the name and post-office address of the new Post Commander, for the Department Roster, before Jan. 10, 1877.

Please see that the list of officers-elect appears in the Roster of Adjutant's report, and that all changes in the "Recapitulation" are accounted for by name under the "Muster Roll," and under the proper headings on back of report. Also see that the reports are signed by the officers of this year.

Please see that the necessary blanks for reports are ordered at once, and that the amount due Department Headquarters is forwarded immediately, in order that all Post accounts may be closed December 31.

If the foregoing suggestions are carried out, the labors of the undersigned will be materially lessened.

Yours, in F., C., and L.,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT BOSTON,
1878.

JANUARY 16.—EVENING SESSION.

ENCAMPMENT called to order by Commander Horace Binney Sargent. The Assistant Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll, and the following Department officers and 173 delegates responded: Commander Horace Binney Sargent, Senior Vice-Commander George S. Evans, Chaplain J. F. Lovering; J. G. B. Adams, C. C. Emery, and John McKay, Jr., of the Council; Asst. Adjt.-Gen. J. F. Meech, Asst. Q.M.-Gen. E. T. Raymond, Inspector Samuel Dalton, and Past Department Commander George S. Merrill.

Post 4 of Melrose having returned M. S. Page as Commander, Comrade C. B. Baldwin presented his credential as Commander; and on motion of Comrade McDonough of Post 7 it was voted that Comrade Baldwin be admitted.

Commander Sargent gave notice to the guard to admit to the rear of the hall all comrades, not members of the Encampment, who might present themselves and give the proper countersign.

The Encampment was called to attention, and prayer was offered by Chaplain J. F. Lovering. The next business being the reports of officers, first in order came the

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER SARGENT.

Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic in the Department of Massachusetts:

The eleventh year of our soldierly and charitable society has come to an end. We are assembled to pass in review our present condition and our action as an organization for dispensing among our comrades-in-arms and their families the money contributed by ourselves and our fellow-citizens of the State.

I am happy to say that, notwithstanding the depression of business, our numbers are not seriously diminished, and that the spirit that animates the Order—binds us together in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty—was never more unselfish and pure. The Grand Army in Massachusetts is respected.

The number of our Posts in this State is 136, with a membership in good standing of about 8,000 men. Posts are three less than last year, and two new Posts have been chartered. The losses arise chiefly from hard times, which cause a certain number of men to be dropped for non-payment of dues. The public little know how sad a story of poverty and despair, from old age, broken health, and disabling reopened wounds, this simple record of "arrears" could often tell. Many of the men who volunteered in 1861 are over sixty years of age; and the younger recruits very generally sacrificed to the nation their best years for learning trades or establishing themselves in the business of civil life. On these men the present continued depression of business acts with exhausting power, because gratitude has now ceased to be a *lively* force in Massachusetts, and young and well-trained operatives are too often preferred for the few situations that offer.

The Posts have during the past year dispensed in "charity," as those call it who misread the balance sheet between the mutilated soldier and the rescued nation, \$22,211.27.

The treasuries of the various Posts have on hand in their relief funds for local aid, \$38,936.16.

The Department is financially in good condition. The report of the Department Quartermaster will give a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Department as such, Department Headquarters having no separate fund and acting as central agent for transmission of Post dues to the National Headquarters. The subject of a fund at Department Headquarters was pressed in my report of last January, and committed by the Convention to the Council of Administration with full powers. After several debates, the Council have decided to report that our Rules and Regulations, which require assessments to be fixed by the Annual Convention in January, forestall any action by the Council that looks to the creation of such a fund by a tax. I again call your attention to the necessity of a small fund.

By the report of the Assistant Adjutant-General, it appears that five feeble Posts, Nos. 60, 98, 107, 130, 133, have surrendered their charters, and that new charters have been granted to Methuen Post, numbered 100, and Princeton Post, numbered 98. Most of the Posts which have surrendered their charters have, for a long time, been the subject of unfavorable reports from the Inspector as weak in numbers. The two new Posts start with excellent prospects of vigorous life.

The surrender of charters by weak Posts, and the merging of their members in strong Posts in the neighborhood, is natural and not to be deprecated. A quorum for business is not easily assured in Posts established in sparse neighborhoods and originally consisting, perhaps, of the smallest number of soldiers entitled to a charter. The monetary enthusiasm dies out when meeting after meeting fails of full attendance. The permanence of our Order in the State is better assured sometimes by one large Post than by two small ones. The interest of the citizens is more completely preserved. The labors of the Department officers would be diminished, and the discipline improved, by limiting the number of Posts to the highest point where regular meetings and a fairly full attendance can be secured. Probably many ex-soldiers would like to be members of a large Post, although not able to attend so regularly as to insure a quorum in a small one. Details for the memorial ceremonies on Decoration Day may be easily made from a large Post; and I earnestly recommend a careful scrutiny of the graveyards in the State, so that no solitary grave of any soldier who has marched under the banner of Massachusetts may be neglected.

The obvious suggestion, that the number of officers on the roster of a Post is so large that very small Posts can have no rank and file, explains the occasional decay of interest in these weak organizations. A single, lone private in a company where all but himself are officers, may be pardoned for lack of military enthusiasm. And with so small a body to choose from, the officer business must be often poorly done. Therefore, except as a stepping-stone for men who might be excluded from the Grand Army by established Posts, but who, once chartered, can surrender their charter and be transferred, I should not encourage new charters lightly, but would consolidate Posts.

With a deep sense of a painful duty, I recommend that the rule in regard to honorable discharges and readmissions to the Grand Army be changed. In military principle, no discharge should be given without the final assent of Department Headquarters, and even the approval of the Commander-in-Chief. But to expel, with the utmost dishonor, a comrade for intoxication; to finally drop a brave soldier too poor to pay his dues; and to *honorably discharge* a convicted felon, are inconsistencies that will bring the Grand Army into contempt. Under the title "Discipline," the third offense cognizable by the Grand Army is "the commission of a scandalous offense against the laws of the land." In my opinion the "honorable discharge" of a convicted criminal in the State Prison is itself a court-martial offense, as "conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline." Such a scandal demands attention, for the same laxity that gives an honorable discharge to a felon may be expected to readmit him to the Post and elect him a delegate to Conventions.

The report of the Department Inspector presents an encouraging view of this Department. For the benefit of my successor and the next Council of Administration, who may require to use the valuable information that comes too late in a year's service to be available by a new board of officers, I suggest a careful examination of the special reports of the assistant inspectors, as the best indications of our internal condition. These special reports should be studied with reference especially to the equalizing of burdens among the Posts, some of which exhaust themselves in charitable labors, while others of greater ability dispense nothing and refer applicants to other Posts already overburdened. These special inspection reports, moreover, exhibit, in some instances, a laxity in the ceremonial which requires immediate reformation.

In consequence of General Order No. 5, from National Headquarters, and in obedience to its spirit, I have ordered the publication hereafter of Posts, with the names of Commanders, in arrears for reports. The result has been creditable to the Department, which, in the opinion of National Headquarters, maintains its high position as a soldierly body of men.

Its strength and discipline were well exhibited on the 17th of September last, when the city of Boston dedicated the Army and Navy Monument on the Common. One hundred and nineteen Posts were represented, and numbered, including the bands, 6,719 in the Grand Army column. The Commander-in-Chief was escorted by the Department and was handsomely entertained with other guests, especially Post 1 of Providence, R.I., by John A. Andrew Post 15 of this city. The march of the Grand Army was enthusiastically cheered by the vast crowds of assembled citizens. Post 7 also entertained Post 2 from Portland, Me. The City Government of Boston has superbly printed and generously distributed a history of the monument.

During the past year I have had occasion, with the advice of the Assistant Judge Advocate, to return disapproved the proceedings of several Post courts-martial. Where grave offenses, which might be matter of criminal process, are charged, the rules of law and evidence cannot be disregarded. The Judge-Advocate of every Post should be familiar with court-martial law, otherwise charges, specifications, material and immaterial facts of evidence are confused, and mere inferences of a witness are taken as testimony.

I respectfully remind my comrades that a dangerous wrong, which civil courts might not justify, may sometimes be done by our neglect of the legal protection which the laws of society throw around defendants; and that, while we must protect the Grand Army from contamination so far as we may, we have not in our charge ten thousand nuns or apostles to keep absolutely unspotted

from the world. It is not always easy to draw the line; but as a great English judge once said in a trial for witchcraft, where the evidence was that the witch was seen riding through the air on a broom, that he knew "no law of England which prevented a lady from riding on a broomstick, if she pleased"; so I know no rule in the Grand Army which inflicts our highest penalty on a man off duty for making a fool of himself by any act not forbidden by the laws of the land.

We must never forget, while we imitate the forms of punishment or trial that are usual in the army, that we have no firm hold on those whom we discipline. We are bound by a principle which offenders despise — our mutual obligation. In the army no man can desert or, against the will of his superior, resign, to escape a penalty.

In this connection, it would be well to increase the inducements to join our Order and to remain in it. Among the effective objects of common interest to hold us to the Order, none seems to have taken a stronger hold upon the hearts of our comrades than a Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts.

In my last report I stated the fact that the Legislature had incorporated Gov. Alexander H. Rice, ex-Gov. William Gaston, the Attorney-General of the United States, Major-Gen. Charles Devens, and the officers of the Grand Army of the Republic in this Department, as Trustees, with the right to hold \$200,000 in real and personal estate for the use of a soldiers' home in this State. We have thus far secured but a small portion of the sum required. Hard times have combined with other causes to delay a success of which I feel certain. I have more than once found obstacles in some corner of our own ranks; some criticism or expression of indifference which proposes nothing, does nothing, gives nothing, but contents itself with squirting a little lukewarm water upon object, or method, or location. But I have summered and wintered the warm-hearted, generous, and brave host that I have had twice, by their kind suffrages, the honor to command. I know that you mean to have a soldiers' home over which the State banner and National flag shall fly. I fall back on your determination, and my own, that the suffering soldiers of Massachusetts shall have a nobler shelter than the poor-house and the jail.

Massachusetts is just beginning to reawaken. She must be reminded of some facts in our memory. Why are Government bonds better than Confederate bonds? She is not *your* creditor; and she is a just and generous debtor to those who lent their money. Will she not also be just and generous to those who lent the best years of their manhood and gave their blood? On the day of the return of the standards in 1865 would she have believed that, only twelve years later, the men who, amid the tears and

shouting of the people and the thunder of cannon, placed those two hundred and sixty-five battle-flags in Governor Andrew's enraptured hands, would have asked in vain for one dollar from each forty of her population? It is not one-half of one per cent of the loss arising to Massachusetts soldiery from having been paid in depreciated paper instead of gold. The first regiments were hired in gold. The latter enlistments, on account of the depreciation of currency, received larger pay and bounty. But ten millions of dollars would not make up the difference between paper and gold to the men who were hired to go through Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and the Wilderness. Did they not earn "honest money"?

When I hear the very reasonable demand for "honest money" from those who never risked their lives, and when I think what the credit of the State would be if she should pay her money debts in a paper so much below the price agreed on per month as she permitted her soldiers to be paid for blood, and then exile them or send them to the poor-house, I think John Albion Andrew must have been beside himself when he said to these exiled paupers, "From the bottom of my heart of hearts, as the official representative of Massachusetts, I pay to you, soldiers, citizens, and heroes, the homage of my most profound gratitude; and the heart of all Massachusetts beats with full sympathy to every word I utter." Twelve years have worked a sad change from heroes.

The fact that the United States has established, at a cost of nearly two million of dollars, four national asylums in four States — Virginia, Wisconsin, Ohio, and Maine — proves the nation's sense of such a necessity. The other fact, that those four asylums cannot now possibly contain ten thousand men, that the late war left two hundred and eighty-four thousand wounded, and that there are over sixteen hundred wounded men in this Department alone, — of less than ten thousand Massachusetts soldiers, — demonstrates the inadequacy of the national provision for us. And yet many soldiers are dying for want of that daily surgical and medical supervision which can only be given in a hospital home. We have dispensed money and care in soldiers' homes; we have paid the board of soldiers without homes; and now, with hundreds of soldiers disfranchised in poor-houses, houseless, hungry, and anguished by camp diseases and reopening wounds, we, the Grand Army of the Republic, claim to know what we were doing when, in convention, we formally resolved to have a soldiers' home in this State. In this resolve we expressed the same opinion held by two soldiers, who are not notorious as bummers, General Grant and General Sherman: both of whom earnestly advocate a soldiers' home in every State. I will not believe that the patriotic men and women of Massachusetts can in

the same hour look without shame at our shattered, blood-stained battle-flags, and exile to another State, far from wife, children, and friends, their poor, sick, mutilated defenders. Listen to Andrew's words when he received these battle-flags from those whom he styled, only twelve years ago last month, "Soldiers so brave, and citizens so beloved."

"Proud memories of many fields," he said; "sweet memories alike of valor and of friendship; sad memories of fraternal strife; tender memories of our fallen brothers and sons, whose dying eyes looked last upon their flaming folds; grand memories of heroic virtues, sublimed by grief; exultant memories of the great and final victories of our country, our Union, and the righteous cause; thankful memories of a deliverance wrought out for human nature itself, unexampled by any former achievement of arms; immortal memories with immortal honors blended twine around these splintered staves, weave themselves along the warp and woof of these familiar flags, war-worn, begrimed, and baptized with blood."

My heart turns over when I read these words, with sickness, indignation, and loathing of the cold and calculating economy that can think of divorcing — exiling any one of my fellow-soldiers from these immortal banners. If Massachusetts cannot and will not aid us, she repudiates — repudiates the official promise made by her great war governor, and is not worthy of the meanest drop of blood that has been shed in a civil strife, which she, more than any other Northern State, excited. But she will not repudiate that promise. Let her take care of her wounded children, or abandon those trophies in Doric Hall to their imploring hands.

It is not creditable to her that though she has spent for one insane asylum nearly as much as the Union has expended on all the national asylums for soldiers, only \$9,000 have been secured for the Soldiers' Home in the State, of which sum Miss Sever of West Roxbury bequeathed \$3,000, and a munificent citizen, John Bertram of Salem, gave \$2,000. In a population of 1,650,000 in Massachusetts, whose savings banks alone hold \$33,000,000 of Government bonds, which would have been worthless but for soldiers, one liberal gentleman and one dear lady have given more than half of the whole sum secured. Can a one-legged soldier pass the Old South Church in Boston without wondering what constitutes "*a monument of patriotism*," if the wounded soldiers of this State, who are today offered a furnished hotel for \$33,000 as a home, are not worth one-tenth of one per cent of the United bonds, \$33,000,000, held by the savings banks alone in the State? Suppose that the Confederacy had conquered. Let Northern bondholders reflect that if only the 1,600 wounded men in our Massachusetts Association alone had been paid in that "*honest*

money" which bondholders naturally demand, the difference between the greatly depreciated paper and the stipulated gold would be nearly ten times the sum they now implore to save the most deserving and anguished of their number from hungry, homeless misery. Are the men who charged in battle line, only twelve years ago, subjects for a pauper's grave?

As soon as a home is procured, among the methods for supporting it, an appeal will be made to the Legislature for an appropriation to support it; annual subscriptions will be solicited, and so far as is possible the home will be made industrial and self-supporting. There is good reason for believing that charitable bequests will be made to it when it shall be an established charity. Bequests that would have been given to such an institution have been lost because the home was not established. I am happy to say that the members of the old Discharged Soldiers' Home and Ladies' Aid Society have already taken steps to reorganize as an auxiliary to our efforts. The Posts throughout the State are making, or have already made, systematic efforts to aid us by immediate contributions or annual subscription and guaranty funds.

Among the methods devised for supporting this and other of our charities, an insurance fund embracing the whole Department has been projected. It is proposed that an association of all the members, or as many as please, shall be formed, each member paying into the treasury a small initial fee, of perhaps one dollar, and on the death of any member a further sum of five or ten cents, with the purpose of creating a fund partly for the benefit of the family of the deceased. Many Posts have adopted this plan; but the entire Department has not yet been embraced in a scheme which would equally inure to the benefit of individuals and to the Department, which feels the need of a Headquarters fund, and would, in the event of having a soldiers' home, absolutely require a better bank account than it has at present.

During the past year I have visited sixty-six towns, and met a much larger number of Posts. The interest manifested by public meetings of citizens in our proposed home is a guaranty of success.

My cordial and earnest thanks are due to my colleagues, the Senior and Junior Vice-Commanders, the Council of Administration, and my personal Staff, for their aid during the past year. I should be unjust if I did not put on record my conviction that the present efficient working of our machinery is due to their co-operation, to the able and thorough Department Inspector and his assistants, and to the admirable Assistant Adjutant-General. No one, without careful examination, can rightly estimate the labor of the Adjutant-General's office, and the fidelity, economy, and vigor with which the inspections have been conducted. To the Chaplain and Medical Director I offer my grateful thanks.

And now, comrades, to you I say farewell!

The reverence that I bear to your record in the tremendous past; my respect for you as loyal citizens and heroic men; my pride of having shared your baptism of fire and blood; my sympathy in your labors now: all these graver feelings are welded with the grateful, tender, and lasting affection which your many kindnesses to me have called out of the depths of my heart. With deep emotion I thank you for your trust and confidence, and I shall proudly remember that I have been twice honored by the men who have been themselves trusted with the honor of Massachusetts on a hundred battle-fields of her glory, and whose hearts are as generous as they are brave.

The address was well received and was applauded at several points.

OTHER BUSINESS.

The remainder of the evening session was occupied in the reading of the reports of the Assistant Adjutant-General, Assistant Quartermaster-General, Inspector, Chaplain, and Council of Administration; but all the facts of public interest therein contained are included in the address of Commander Sargent. Among other matters which occupied the attention of the delegates was a proposition to form a mutual insurance company.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S REPORT.

Boston, Jan. 16, 1878.

Commander and Comrades of the Department:

In accordance with the requirements of Rules and Regulations and my duty as Assistant Adjutant-General of this Department, I most respectfully submit the following report for 1877:—

Number of Posts Dec. 31, 1876 139

“ “ Members in good standing fourth quarter,
1876 8,786

Number of Posts Dec. 31, 1877 136

“ “ Members in good standing fourth quarter,
1877, so far as reported 7,881

Charters of the following Posts have been surrendered during the year:—

Post 60	Whitinsville.
“ 98	Pittsfield.
“ 107	Hubbardston.
“ 130	Williamstown.
“ 133	N. Attleboro.

New charters have been granted during the year as follows : —

Post 100	Methuen.
“ 98	Princeton.

The following changes in the membership of the Department have taken place during the year : —

Number of members admitted by muster	678
“ “ “ transfer	86
“ “ “ reinstatement	1,257
Aggregate	2,021
Number of members lost by death	91
“ “ “ honorable discharge	102
“ “ “ transfer	111
“ “ “ suspension	2,234
“ “ “ dishonorable discharge	2
Loss	2,540
Number of rejected applicants during the year	27
Amount disbursed for charity for the year ending Sept. 30, 1877	\$22,211.27

The foregoing report is for one hundred and twenty-seven, that number of Posts having made complete returns for fourth quarter.

There are no Posts in arrears for reports of any kind prior to fourth quarter 1877.

There are a number of Posts in the Department that made large gains in membership during the past year, and especially by muster-in. In this connection I desire to mention

Post 47 having gained	35
“ 35 “ “	33
“ 5 “ “	23
“ 132 “ “	20
“ 7, 13 and 40 having gained	19 each.
“ 15 having gained	18
“ 16 and 115 having gained	14 each.

and particularly to the last, Post 115 of Groton, which has gained 14, thereby adding one-third to its membership.

The above results show plainly what a small amount of missionary work will do, and it also suggests what might be done in any of the towns or cities of this Commonwealth where there is a Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

There having been more or less trouble, not only in this, but other Departments, regarding the delinquency of Posts in making their reports to Department Headquarters at the proper time, as required by Rules and Regulations, the Commander-in-Chief has

taken the matter in hand and has issued a very stringent general order in reference to this matter, in which he places the fault where it belongs, and proposes to hold Departments responsible for this delay.

Hereafter, all Departments in arrears for reports will be published in General Orders. Therefore the Departments, in order to protect themselves, have adopted the same plan.

It is to be hoped, for the credit of this Department, that such publication will not be forced upon us by the tardiness of Posts. The promptness with which all reports have been forwarded for the fourth quarter shows clearly that Post officers can be prompt and soldierly. The avoidance of any delay in the matter, together with a care that the reports are made out properly, will go a great way towards making our organization what it should be.

The action of the National Encampment, at its last meeting, in reference to making all blanks for reports free, will reduce the running expenses of Posts somewhat, and possibly influence them to greater care, not only in making their reports, but in retaining a copy of every report made, which is of the utmost importance.

In speaking of this matter of reports, I desire to refer to a custom that a great many Posts have fallen into: namely, that of sending money through the mails. It is a fact that at least two-thirds of all the Posts in this Department make the remittances for dues and supplies in this way. I would most strongly recommend that officers of Posts should avail themselves of the facilities afforded by express, check, money order, or registered letter.

I desire to join with the Judge Advocate in a recommendation that greater care be exercised in conducting courts-martial, and especially a more thorough acquaintance with and knowledge of Rules and Regulations. It would almost seem superfluous to say to a Post, "You cannot suspend Rules and Regulations." Yet I have heard many instances where it has been done. In this connection I desire to call the attention of Posts and comrades to a book that your attention has been called to a number of times during the past eighteen months: I refer to what is known as the "Proceedings of National Encampment." It is a history of your organization, commencing Nov. 20, 1866, and includes all the meetings of the National Encampments for ten years, together with the opinions in full of the Judge Advocate-General on all questions that have been submitted to him, with a digest of the same; including also other matters of interest: the whole thoroughly indexed.

The Council of Administration, recognizing the importance of this book, authorized a subscription for 100 copies, of which number about one-third remain unsold. The cost of the book,

\$1.75, is very small as compared with its usefulness, as every Post would find; as it would save much trouble and delay on questions that otherwise go to the Judge Advocate for perhaps the third or fourth time.

There is still another matter that I desire to bring before you for consideration at this time. The questions are often asked, "What can be done to induce men who are eligible to join our organization?" and "Once they are members, what can be done to keep them in?" It is a notorious fact that a great many comrades leave the Order honorably; others, through misfortune and the stringency of the times, allow their membership to lapse unwillingly; of others who go out from us, some give one reason and some another: but the fact remains the same.

I have given this matter more or less thought. I have taken pains to converse with comrades in the Order, with men who have been members, and with others who are eligible to membership, and the universal complaint is summed up in the few brief words: "It is no object or benefit for me to belong to the organization. I can join some other organization; and if I am laid up or in case of death, either myself or my family get the benefit of it, whereas from the Grand Army of the Republic a man who was a soldier and don't belong gets just as much help as I do." Taking all these facts into consideration, I am of the opinion that measures should at once be taken to incorporate into our Department a system of mutual benefit, so that a part of the saying I have just quoted will be less true; and it will be an object for every honorably discharged soldier or sailor, who has worn the blue, to be with, and of, those of us who are members of, and have undoubted faith in, the Grand Army of the Republic. I think that a beneficial organization might be formed which would embrace every member in good standing in the Department, upon the payment of an initial fee of say *one dollar* for membership, and then by making a pool of the whole Department upon the death of a comrade to which every member of the Association contributes the sum of say five or ten cents, which the very smallness of the amount would make popular; but the aggregate of these sums would result in an amount to go to the family of the deceased that would place them above want, and thereby relieve Posts from any extra calls that would otherwise be made upon them. But for the desire not to take too much of your valuable time I might elaborate and present other plans and details regarding this matter; but as I have taken already more time than perhaps belongs to me, I leave this subject to your thought, trusting that you will give it such consideration as you may think best.

In closing this, my second annual report, I trust I may be pardoned if I have taken more time and space than are due me; and especially do I wish not to be misunderstood, as what I have

said is not given in any spirit of fault-finding, but simply the result of nearly two years of observation at Headquarters—two years that are to me full of many pleasant memories, for which to you, Commander, and the Officers of this Department I beg to express my most grateful and heartfelt thanks for the most unqualified courtesy and kindness, at all times and under all circumstances.

All of which is respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1877.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand as per report of 1876	\$227.40	
Dues for first quarter, 1876	1.20	
“ second quarter, 1876	1.20	
“ third quarter, 1876	7.12	
“ fourth quarter, 1876	704.12	
“ first quarter, 1877	683.06	
“ second quarter, 1877	669.96	
“ third quarter, 1877	664.56	
Sale of books and blanks	404.93	
“ badges	639.30	
“ sundries	57.40	
Total receipts		<u>\$4,060.25</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Cash expended as per vouchers, including \$27		
transferred to Soldiers' Home	\$4,001.66	
Cash on hand	58.59	
		<u>\$4,060.25</u>

ASSETS.

Due from Posts for dues	\$656.00	
“ “ books and blanks (estimated), ...	30.00	
Value of books and blanks on hand	300.00	
Office furniture	175.00	
Colors	30.00	
Cash	58.59	
Total assets		<u>\$1,249.59</u>

LIABILITIES.

Inspectors' expenses	\$150.66	
Printing	49.10	
By vote of Council to the Inspector	50.00	
National Headquarters, dues for fourth quarter	160.00	
Books and blanks	292.52	
Money advanced by Assistant Adjutant-General		
to pay carriage bills	96.00	
		<u>\$798.28</u>
Excess of assets over liabilities		<u>\$451.31</u>

(Signed)

E. T. RAYMOND,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR.

In compliance with Section 1, Article V., By-Laws of the Grand Army of the Republic, I have the honor to submit my consolidated Report of Inspection and duplicate copy with letter to be forwarded to the Inspector-General of the National Encampment.

In selecting my assistants I relied entirely on Post Commanders for names to nominate, and everyone appointed had the approval of their own Commander. Thirty assistants were appointed in accordance with General Orders No. 6, Headquarters Department of Massachusetts, and all have attended to the duty but one, who resigned late in the year, and Comrade F. H. Butler of Post 7 was appointed in his place; and I am desirous of tendering my thanks to my assistants for the prompt manner in which they have attended to their duties.

Every Post in the Department has been called upon, and, with the exception of one, have been inspected; and from that one a report was received, but the performance of the Ritual was not witnessed.

MEMBERSHIP.

Whole number of members reported at dates of Inspection, 8,281. This is a falling off from last year; but as Posts were inspected early, I think the gain in membership since the inspection will bring the membership up to full number of last report.

RITUAL.

Generally the work of the Ritual is well performed; but uniformity is needed, and in all Posts it should be committed to memory.

CHARITY.

One hundred and ten Posts have expended in charity the year ending Sept. 30, 1877, \$22,211.27. This is a small falling off from last year. Posts hold charity funds to the amount of \$38,936.16, which is also less than year previous.

POSTS.

Ninety Posts are reported as in good condition.

Seventeen Posts are reported fair.

Twelve Posts are reported poor.

The following Posts are reported in very poor condition, most of which do not hold meetings, while a few meet only on Memorial Days: 20, 27, 102, 103, 129, 130, 50, 52, 119. Post 136 holds informal meetings, but does not perform Ritual. I would call the attention of the Department to the Posts which are reported as not holding meetings, and would suggest that something be done to revive them, or that the Grand Army of the Republic books and property in their hands be surrendered.

The entire cost of inspection has been \$150.66. Bills of assistants to that amount have been approved and forwarded by me to the Adjutant-General. The present form of inspection to me seems wrong. It is impossible to get the work done alike by thirty assistants, and the same standard will not be used.

If a plan could be matured, placing it in the hands of the Department officers, and let them make the inspections, uniformity could easily be obtained, and the visits of such officers would be of great benefit to weak Posts.

In conclusion I desire to acknowledge my obligations to the Department Commander and officers for many courtesies extended.

(Signed) SAMUEL DALTON,
Department Inspector.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

During the past year I have made twenty addresses at Soldiers' Home meetings, camp-fires, and other gatherings under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic. I have delivered four Memorial addresses — three on Decoration Day, at Chelsea, Spencer, and Leicester; and one the day following at North Brookfield. There have been eighteen regular and special meetings of the Council of Administration. I have been present at twelve.

Under orders from Department Commander I issued a circular May 1, 1877, addressed to the religious organizations throughout the State, calling attention to the need of a Soldiers' Home and soliciting contributions. Fifty-three societies have responded, addressing the Adjutant-General's office directly; and the funds collected amount to a little over \$1,009.20.

The work I have been called upon to perform, I have regarded as an honorable privilege. From more varied and extensive acquaintance with comrades and Posts, I am more fully convinced than ever that no organization has a more conspicuous claim upon the intelligent and enthusiastic regard of a loyal citizen than the Grand Army of the Republic. No effort should be deemed too considerable, no sacrifice should be regarded too great, to further its interests.

It has in charge the sacred memories of the noble dead, the Grand Army of Heroes who have been promoted. It has in charge the widows and orphans who in faithful hearts as in holy shrines preserve the names of our departed comrades.

It has in charge the brave survivors who today suffer from disease or wounds. It has in charge, and it alone has in charge, the right to set up, for the education of national conscience and

faith, a standard of national loyalty and patriotism. It has in charge, by the noble record of a stainless renown, by the broad speech of heroic life, by an unfaltering faith in the country's future. It has in charge to broaden the significance of its initial letters G.A.R., so that Grand Army of the Republic may be synonymous with the Great American Republic, and to publish as the solemn oath of every comrade, an oath taken as before a soldier's grave upon our open Bible, and beneath the folds of the Stars and Stripes, this solemn declaration:—

With freedom we will live, or sleep
 With our great dead who set us free.
 God forget us when we forget
 To keep the old Flag flying yet.

(Signed) J. F. LOVERING,
Chaplain Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

To the Members of the Department Convention.

Comrades:

In accordance with Section 9, Article VI., the Council of Administration respectfully submits the following report of its doings during the past year:—

The Council has held eighteen meetings; average number of members present at each meeting, nine.

We have carefully examined the accounts of the Assistant Quartermaster-General and find them correct.

The total receipts from all sources have been	\$4,060.25
The expenditures have been	4,001.66

Cash on hand at date	\$58.50
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Our predecessors in office have at several times called the Convention's attention to the fact, that from Posts not paying their dues at the time when the Rules and Regulations call for it, the Assistant Quartermaster-General has been obliged to borrow money to meet the bills of the Department. We believe that the time must come when such an act will be of the utmost injury, and we cannot urge too strongly on this Convention to take such action as shall render it unnecessary to borrow money hereafter.

At the last semi-annual meeting of this Department, held in this city in July last, the subject of revision of the by-laws of the Department were referred to the Council.

As the Rules and Regulations provide rules of order for the government of the National Encampment, we would recommend that they be adopted and used by the Department Encampment.

Owing to the short time allowed the Assistant Adjutant-General to prepare his report, we would recommend that the time of holding the Department Convention be left to the Commander and Council of Administration, they to call it between the 15th day of January and the 1st day of February of each year.

At the Convention of one year ago, the matter of a soldiers' home in Massachusetts was referred to the Council of Administration, with full power. At the first meeting of the Council, it was voted to refer the matter as to the act of incorporation, to a committee consisting of Commander Sargent, Chaplain Lovering, and Judge-Advocate Bailey, which Committee reported an act of incorporation; and Gov. A. H. Rice, ex-Gov. Wm. Gaston, and Attorney-General Chas. Devens were elected as trustees, with the present members of the Council, making the total number eighteen; and the act was accepted.

Long and earnest discussions have been held regarding this project; and the Council are unanimous in their expression that there is need of a soldiers' home in Massachusetts for the care of our wounded and sick comrades; and after several visits to places, and the consideration of the subject in full, the Council decided that it was not best to attempt the establishment of the Home until such a sum was raised and placed in our hands as would insure the payment for the home in cash. With this object in view, the Commander, with some of the Council, has attended sixty-six meetings and fairs in different parts of the State during the year, all of them speaking in behalf of their comrades. We have been met with the greatest enthusiasm, and the amount reported to you by Commander Sargent is no doubt due largely to the labor performed by them.

In closing this report, we desire to express our appreciation of the labor performed by Commander Horace Binney Sargent during the past year. His untiring zeal in the work, and earnest endeavors to keep this Department in the front rank of the Grand Army, we believe entitle him to the respect and love of every comrade of the Department.

Our associations with the Assistant Adjutant-General, both official and private, have been of the most pleasant character, and we can only add our appreciation of the labor performed by him to the love borne to him by every comrade.

(Signed) C. C. EMERY,
JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
JOHN MCKAY, JR.,
Council of Administration.

It was voted that the reports of the officers as presented be accepted.

Comrade Silloway of Post 94 moved, That so much of the Commander's Address, and that part of the report of the Assistant Adjutant-General that refers to an insurance or mutual benefit association, be referred to a committee of five, to be appointed at once by the Commander, said committee to report at the session tomorrow.

The motion prevailed, and the committee was announced as follows: —

Jacob Silloway, Jr., of Post 94, H. E. Hill of Post 139, J. W. Sawyer of Post 95, G. H. Teague of Post 12, E. C. Whitney of Post 43.

Comrade Perkins moved, That when this Encampment adjourn it be to meet at 10 o'clock A.M. tomorrow, the 17th. Comrade Maxfield of Post 42 offered an amendment to the above motion, that the hour of meeting be 9 o'clock. The vote on the amendment being doubtful, a rising vote was taken, and the count gave 97 in favor and 52 against.

Comrade Maxfield of Post 42 moved, That a committee of nine be appointed by the Commander, to report a list of candidates for Council of Administration and delegates and alternates to National Encampment. The following comrades were announced as that committee: —

J. P. Maxfield of Post 42, W. H. Eastman of Post 34, John Brogan of Post 57, M. B. Lakeman of Post 40, W. A. Holland of Post 56, P. H. Creasy of Post 49, C. T. Perkins of Post 81, C. B. Baldwin of Post 4, D. H. L. Gleason of Post 63.

At 9.15 o'clock the Encampment adjourned.

JANUARY 17. — SECOND SESSION.

ENCAMPMENT called to order at 9 o'clock A.M. by Commander Sargent. The Assistant Adjutant-General called the roll, and 215 members answered their names. After prayer by Chaplain Lovering, it was voted that further calling of the roll be dispensed with.

Voted that the reading of the records of the previous meeting be dispensed with; and that a staff officer be stationed at the entrance to check off the names of those delegates who had not been previously admitted.

A telegram was received from Commander Tanner of Department of New York, as follows : —

NEW YORK, Jan. 16, 1878.

Gen. HORACE BINNEY SARGENT.

Comrade : To the Department of Massachusetts I extend a cordial fraternal greeting. Success to your Soldiers' Home enterprise. Our success in the same direction is assured.

(Signed) JAMES TANNER,
Department Commander.

On motion of Comrade Herbert E. Hill of Post 139 it was voted that Commander Sargent be authorized to answer the despatch of Commander Tanner as he may deem best.

Comrade Whitney, on behalf of Committee on Mutual Benefit Association, made the following report : —

Report of Committee on Mutual Benefit for the G.A.R., Department of Massachusetts.

Commander and Comrades : Your Committee have met, and if they had more time would be pleased to have made a more extended report. They heartily concur in the recommendation for a Mutual Benefit Association for the Grand Army of the Republic, believing that it will aid to carry out the object of our Order more minutely. We recommend such an association be formed, and that the whole question be referred to the Council of Administration, with directions to prepare a code of rules and laws with such recommendations as in their judgment the subject demands, and present the result in print to the Posts of the Department as soon as practicable, or within six months.

(Signed) GEORGE H. TEAGUE,
HERBERT E. HILL,
E. C. WHITNEY,
Committee.

On motion of Comrade J. B. Smithers of Post 30, it was voted that the report of the committee be accepted and the recommendation adopted.

Commander Hill of Post 33 brought up the subject of perpetuation of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Commander Small of Post 48 also spoke on the same subject, and moved, That our delegates to the National Encampment be instructed to bring the matter of perpetuation of the Grand Army of the Republic before the National Convention.

Remarks against it were made by Comrade Filkins of Post 15, Thompson of Post 42, and Patch of Post 142.

Comrade Hill of Post 33 strongly advocated the proposition; but on motion the matter was laid on the table.

At this point Judge Advocate A. J. Bailey obtained the floor, and in a short speech urged the importance of electing a commander for the ensuing year who would be thoroughly interested in the matter of the proposed Soldiers' Home. Commander R. F. Tobin of Post 30, and Thos. Plunkett of Post 28, advocated the re-election of Commander Sargent. Comrade J. P. Maxfield of Post 42 followed in opposition to the re-election of Commander Sargent and presented the name of Comrade Past Department Commander Geo. S. Merrill of Post 39, Lawrence.

The committee to whom was assigned the duty of nominating candidates for Council of Administration, and delegates and alternates to National Encampment, reported through their chairman, Comrade Maxfield, that their committee were ready to report, but asked that they might be excused from making the report until after the election of officers. After considerable debate the previous question was ordered, and the Committee were instructed to make their report at once. Following is a report of the Committee:—

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

C. C. Emery	of Post	26
Chas. W. Slade	"	7
J. G. B. Adams	"	5
Geo. W. Creasey	"	49
Geo. H. Patch	"	142

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.

Herbert E. Hill, Post 139

ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.

C. F. Luther, Post 79

DELEGATES.

M. B. Lakeman, Post 40
 Albert Wood, " 10
 Edmund W. Stone, " 56
 Joseph O'Neil, " 46
 E. W. Thompson, " 42
 J. H. Gleason, " 77
 J. W. Sawyer, " 95
 Geo. S. Evans, " 30

ALTERNATES.

Arthur M. Holt, Post 39
 Samuel C. Wright, " 76
 C. F. Hodgkins, " 35
 A. L. Barrett, " 17
 E. G. W. Cartwright, " 77
 Francis Locke, Jr., " 45
 M. B. Merchant, " 19
 C. W. Wilcox, " 22

On motion the report of the Committee was laid on the table.

Comrade Henry B. Peirce being present in the rear of the hall, on motion of the Assistant Adjutant-General, it was voted that he be invited to a seat on the platform.

Commander R. F. Tobin of Post 30 moved, That a committee of five be appointed to collect, sort, and count votes for Department Commander.

The following comrades were appointed as that committee: —

R. F. Tobin of Post 30, A. B. Hodges of Post 3, J. K. Churchill of Post 10, M. P. Palmer of Post 115, T. L. Kelly of Post 15.

Past Department Commander Geo. S. Merrill expressed his appreciation of the honor that had been conferred upon him in times past, by the Department, but at the same time declined to be a candidate for Department Commander.

Pending the result of the ballot for Commander, on motion of Comrade C. F. Hodgkins of Post 35, it was voted that a committee of five be appointed by the Commander to collect, sort and count votes for Senior Vice Department Commander. The following comrades were appointed as that Committee: —

C. F. Hodgkins of Post 35, S. C. Small of Post 148, John Collins of Post 6, A. H. Batchelor of Post 70, E. W. Thompson of Post 42.

The names of George S. Evans, Post 30, C. C. Emery, Post 26, and J. G. B. Adams, Post 5, were presented as candidates for Senior Vice Department Commander. Comrade Evans withdrew the use of his name, with thanks to the Department for honors conferred in the past.

The Committee on ballot for Department Commander reported as follows: —

Whole number of votes cast	181
Necessary for a choice	91
Blank	1
George S. Merrill	2
W. S. Greenough	2
J. G. B. Adams	3
Horace Binney Sargent	173

After the interest in the result of the ballot had subsided, Comrade Sargent expressed his appreciation of the honor conferred, and while he was in doubt as to his duty in the matter, he should accept the election for the third term.

The Committee on Ballot for Senior Vice Department Commander reported as follows : —

Whole number of votes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	190
Necessary for a choice	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	96
Geo. H. Patch	of Post 142	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
C. C. Emery	"	26	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	74
J. G. B. Adams	"	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	111

And Comrade Adams was declared elected, and he accepted the position.

On motion, the Committee that had collected ballots for Commander were instructed to perform the same service for Junior Vice-Commander. The names of John A. Hawes, Post 1, and C. C. Emery, Post 26, were presented for that office.

On motion, the Assistant Adjutant-General was instructed to cast the unanimous vote of the Encampment for W. Symington Brown, Post 75, for Medical Director of the Department for the ensuing year. The duty was performed as directed, and Comrade Brown was declared elected.

The Committee that had collected the vote for Senior Vice Department Commander were instructed to perform the same duty for Chaplain.

Comrade J. F. Lovering declined to be a candidate for that office; and while he thanked the comrades for the honor of two years' service in that capacity, he presented the name of Comrade William H. Savage of Post 53 as a comrade particularly fitted for the position. Comrade Monroe of Post 13 presented the name of Thomas G. Carver of that Post for Chaplain.

While the Committee were counting the vote for Junior Vice Department Commander, the Assistant Adjutant-General read a communication from National Headquarters, accompanied by a bill relative to a change in the Pension Laws. On motion, the whole subject was referred to the new Council of Administration.

The Committee on Ballot for Junior Vice Department Commander reported as follows : —

Whole number of votes cast	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	176
Necessary for a choice	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	89
C. C. Emery	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	58
John A. Hawes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	116

And Comrade Hawes was declared elected.

It was moved by Comrade Nathan Appleton, That a Committee of three be appointed by the chair to have full power to act in co-operation with a committee from the militia of Massachusetts in regard to giving a ball in aid of the Soldiers' Home in the Armory of Battery A, Boston, which armory Captain Appleton offers for this purpose. The motion was adopted.

The chair appointed on the Committee Nathan Appleton of Post 113, George S. Merrill of Post 39, C. Frank Luther of Post 79.

The result of the ballot for Chaplain was reported by the committee as follows:—

Whole number of votes	182
Necessary for a choice	92
Comrade Cartér had	1
Thomas G. Carver had	73
William H. Savage "	98

Comrade Savage was declared elected.

On nomination of candidates for Council of Administration and delegates and alternates, the report of the committee was by vote of the Encampment taken from the table. Comrades Emery of Post 26 and Cartwright of Post 47 declined the nomination as members of the Council of Administration. These declinations, together with the election of Comrade Adams as Senior Vice Department Commander, made it necessary to recommit the report to the committee, with instructions to report new names for the Council, and secure, if possible, a more equitable distribution as to location of the delegates and alternates.

The report was by vote referred back to the Committee with the above instructions.

A motion to adjourn to two o'clock was lost.

The Committee on Council of Administration and National Delegates and Alternates presented their amended report as follows:—

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.		ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.	
Herbert E. Hill	Post 149	C. Frank Luther,	Post 79
DELEGATES.		ALTERNATES.	
M. B. Lakeman,	Post 40	Arthur M. Holt,	Post 39
Albert Wood,	" 10	S. C. Wright,	" 76
J. W. Sawyer,	" 95	C. F. Hodgkins,	" 35
E. W. Thompson,	" 42	A. L. Barrett,	" 17
W. A. Simmons,	" 15	Amos Bartlett,	" 61
Joseph O'Neil,	" 46	Francis Locke, Jr.,	" 45
G. S. Evans,	" 30	B. M. Merchant,	" 19
S. B. Spooner,	" 16	C. W. Wilcox,	" 22

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Charles W. Slade	Post 7, Boston.
George H. Patch	" 142, S. Framingham.
George W. Creasey	" 49, Newburyport.
J. Frank Dalton	" 34, Salem.
Geo. H. Howard	" 57, E. Cambridge.

The Assistant Adjutant-General was directed to cast the vote of the Convention for the comrades named in the report, which duty was performed, and they were declared elected.

Comrade Johnson of Post 134 offered the following resolution, which was unanimously accepted : —

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment be and the same are hereby extended to the Officer of the Day, Officer of the Guard, and detail of comrades from Post 7, for the prompt and efficient manner in which they have performed their duties during this Encampment. Also, for the beautiful floral decorations for the Commander's table, furnished by comrades of same Post.

Comrade Patch, Post 142, moved, That the Delegates from this Department to the National Encampment be instructed to use their influence in favor of a change in Sections 3 and 4, Article IV., Chapter V, Rules and Regulations, which refers to arrearages and the suspension and dropping of members, so that Posts may have discretionary powers, and *may* suspend and drop instead of *shall* suspend and drop, etc. After a short debate, on motion of Comrade Adams of Post 5, the whole subject was laid upon the table.

The following Department officers were duly installed by Past Department Commander A. B. Underwood : —

Horace Binney Sargent,	Department Commander.
John G. B. Adams,	Senior Vice Dept. Commander.
John A. Hawes,	Junior Vice Dept. Commander.
W. Symington Brown,	Medical Director.
Charles W. Slade, }	Council of Administration.
George H. Patch, }	
J. Frank Dalton, }	

There being no further business to transact, the Encampment adjourned at 1.45 o'clock P.M.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1877.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Jan. 25, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 1. }

I. Having been re-elected and duly installed as Commander of this Department for the ensuing year, I hereby assume the duties of my office.

Comrades: The overwhelming vote of 203 out of 218 ballots in the Department Convention, by which you have re-elected me to office, compels me to make such return as I may for your soldierly confidence by an earnest and honest effort to serve you again. It is for you, and not for me, to say whether you will depart from the custom of not re-electing those on whom you confer command. Respectfully, fraternally, and tenderly, I thank you for the unusual honor, and proceed at once to my work.

We commence our eleventh year under good auspices. The public never understood us better, and they can never understand too well our only purposes and spirit: Fraternity to each other, the living and the dead; Charity in its holiest sense; and an unchanging Loyalty to one Flag and the whole Republic.

A special labor of charity is before us. I earnestly solicit the unceasing efforts of every Post and every comrade in aid of a Soldiers' Home for the Grand Army in Massachusetts. The banner of the State must wave over a roof of our own. The grave alone must not be "The Soldier's Rest."

Charity to this end must be organized. Every town must be awakened. The churches must be entreated, sermons must be preached; collections must be taken; gifts and *bequests* must be solicited. The Commonwealth is full of generous men and women, who only require to be forcibly reminded of the destitute and wounded men who once tendered their lives for them.

The Department Commander and Staff desire to make a personal acquaintance with every Post during the present year. To this end Posts are requested to so arrange one or more of their camp-fires as to combine the various Posts of any one neighborhood in the same meeting. It is also suggested that expenses might thus be shared and more fraternal feeling created. It is recommended that these gatherings be associated with a public meeting, to which the patriotic, warm-hearted citizens—women as well as men—be invited. We never can forget their noble tenderness to us in the war; and if we respectfully now invite their co-operation, they will not forget our suffering companions-in-arms.

II. The Commander affectionately thanks the officers of the Staff for their services during the past year, and announces the following appointments:—

Official Staff.

James F. Meech of Post 10, Worcester, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Edward T. Raymond of Post 10, Worcester, Assistant Quartermaster-General.

Samuel Dalton of Post 34, Salem, Inspector.

Andrew J. Bailey of Post 11, Charlestown, Judge Advocate.

Henry Wilson, Jr., of Post 35, Chelsea, Chief Mustering Officer.

They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Future orders will announce other appointments on the Staff.

III. All official correspondence must be signed by Post commanders and addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General, whose office hours will be as heretofore, from 10 A.M. to 12 M., and from 2 to 4 P.M., except on Sundays and Saturday afternoons, when the office will be closed.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROSTER, DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, G.A.R., 1877.

ELECTED.

Horace Binney Sargent,	Salem,	Commander.
George S. Evans,	Cambridgep't,	Senior Vice-Commander.
George H. Patch,	S. Framingh'm,	Jnnior Vice-Commander.
William S. Brown,	Stoneham,	Medical Director.
J. F. Lovering,	Watertown,	Chaplain.
Cyrus C. Emery,	Boston,	Council of Administration.
J. G. B. Adams,	Lynn,	" "
John McKay, Jr.,	Cambridgep't,	" "
E. G. W. Cartwright,	Haverhill,	" "
C. W. Wilcox,	Milford,	" "

APPOINTED.

James F. Meech,	Boston,	Assistant Adjutant-General.
	608 Washington St.,	Room 7.
Edward T. Raymond,	Boston,	Asst. Quartermaster-General.
	608 Washington St.,	Room 7.
Samuel Dalton,	Boston,	Inspector.
	143 Pearl St.	
Andrew J. Bailey,	Boston,	Judge Advocate.
	61 Court St.	
Henry Wilson, Jr.,	Boston,	Chief Mustering Officer.
	114 State St.	

AIDES-DE-CAMP.

A. B. R. Sprague,	Worcester	G. A. Churchill,	Boston
Arnold A. Rand,	Dedham	Charles H. Rust,	Springfield
Emerson Stone,	Spencer	A. A. Smith,	Colrain
D. H. L. Gleason,	Natick	Edwin A. Morse,	Worcester
George H. Teague,	Wakefield	Nathan Appleton,	Boston
Albert Wood,	Worcester	Jacob Silloway, Jr.,	Canton
Thomas Plunkett,	W. Boylston	W. H. Hildreth,	Peabody
I. F. R. Hosea,	Medford	George W. Creasey,	Newburyport
Henry W. Briggs,	New Bedford	Wm. H. Wade,	Attleboro

DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Delegates.

Henry B. Peirce (at large)	.	.	.	Abington.
J. A. G. Richardson,	Lowell	E. T. Colby,	.	Newburyport
Emerson Stone,	Spencer	J. S. Fay,	.	Marlboro
J. B. Lamb,	Worcester	William Watts,	.	Taunton
Arthur M. Holt,	Lawrence	George H. Hoyt,	.	Athol
D. O. Judd,	Springfield			

Alternates.

W. H. Dunville (at large)	.	.	.	N. Adams.
G. C. Fiske,	Ashland	Edmund A. Stone,	.	Cambridge
F. L. Harmon,	W. Warren	J. F. Searle,	.	Grafton
W. F. Hutchins,	Dedham	H. P. Woodbury,	.	Beverly
F. O. Barnes,	Chelsea	George E. Burgess,	.	Hudson
G. V. Bangs,	Chicopee			

POSTS.

No.	Name of Post.	Commander.	Town.	Night of Meeting.
1	Wm. Logan Rodman,	Wm. G. Davis,	New Bedford,	Wednesday.
2				
3	Wm. A. Bartlett,	A. B. Hodges,	Taunton,	Tuesday.
4	U. S. Grant,	Moses S. Page,	Melrose,	1st and 3d Tues.
5	Gen. Lander,	A. J. Hoitt,	Lynn,	Thursday.
6	P. T. Wyman,	J. H. Osgood,	Holliston,	Tuesday.
7	Chas. Russell Lowell,	John McDonough,	Boston,	Friday.
8	E. W. Pierce,	Alfred W. Stoddard,	Middleboro,	Saturday.
9	Reno,	E. P. Miles,	Hudson,	Wednesday.
		(Box 297.)		
10	Geo. H. Ward,	J. B. Lamb,	Worcester,	Thursday.
11	Abraham Lincoln,	Edmund C. Bradford,	Charlestown,	1st and 3d Tues.
12	Warren,	W. S. Greenough,	Wakefield,	2d and 4th Mon.
13	Fletcher Webster,	W. W. Kidder,	Brockton,	Thursday
14	C. C. Phillips,	Stephen Temple,	Woodville,	Monday.
15	John A. Andrew,	Geo. J. Hinds,	Boston,	Friday.
		(Custom House)		
16	E. K. Wilcox,	J. L. Knight,	Springfield,	2d and 4th Wed.
17	Gen. Segwick,	R. W. Rand (P.O. 470),	Orange,	Alt. Fridays.
18	Col. Prescott,	Robert E. Gibson,	Ashland,	Wednesday.
19	Edwin V. Sumner,	Geo. E. Goodrich,	Fitchburg,	Thursday.
20	H. S. Greenleaf,	E. J. Read,	Colrain,	1st and 3d Fri.
21				
22	Maj. E. F. Fletcher,	Henry J. Bailey,	Milford,	Wednesday.
23	Joseph Hooker	Chas. R. Roberts.	East Boston,	Tuesday.
24	A. B. R. Sprague,	J. K. Axtell,	Grafton,	2d and last Tues.
25	H. H. Legge,	Ezra J. Hill,	Uxbridge,	1st and 3d Tues.
26	Thos. G. Stevenson,	Giles H. Rich,	Boston Highlands,	Monday.
		(2389 Washington St.)		
27	Chas. Devens, Jr.,	Geo. H. Stevens,	Oxford,	Tuesday.
28	Geo. D. Wells,	E. B. Berry,	West Boylston,	1st and 3d Wed.
29	F. P. H. Rogers,	Henry E. Fisher,	Waltham,	2d and 4th Fri.

No.	Name of Post.	Commander.	Town.	Night of Meeting.
30	Wm. H. Smart,	John B. Smithers,	Cambridgeport,	Thursday.
31	Geo. W. Perry,	Benj. Brown, (Scituate Centre.)	Scituate,	1st and 3d Mon.
32	Washington,	S. B. Crane,	South Boston,	1st and 3d Thurs.
33	Burbank,	Thos. H. Hill,	Woburn,	Tuesday.
34	Phil H. Sheridan,	Wm. H. Eastman,	Salem,	Tuesday.
35	Theo. Winthrop,	Chas. F. Hodgkins, (30 Pemberton Square, Boston.)	Chelsea,	Thursday
36	E. M. Stanton,	T. W. Sloan,	Amherst,	2d Tuesday.
37	F. A. Stearns,	John W. Bigelow,	Spencer,	1st and 3d Thurs.
38	Dexter,	A. D. Ward,	Brookfield,	1st and 3d Tues.
39	Needham,	Daniel F. Kiley,	Lawrence,	Wednesday.
40	Gen. H. G. Berry,	Geo. W. McLaughlin, (43 Summer St., Boston.)	Malden,	1st and 3d Thurs.
41	Lyon,	Wm. Provin, Jr.,	Westfield,	2d Tuesday.
42	B. F. Butler,	E. W. Thompson,	Lowell,	Thursday.
43	John A. Rawlins,	E. C. Whitney,	Marlboro,	Tuesday.
44				
45	Col. Allen,	Francis Locke, Jr.,	Gloucester,	Thursday.
46	Richard Borden,	Wm. O. Milne,	Fall River,	Tuesday.
47	Maj. How,	D. Smith Kimball, (P.O. Box 896.)	Haverhill,	Tuesday.
48	Geo. S. Bontwell,	Augustus Lovejoy,	Ayer,	1st Thursday.
49	A. W. Bartlett,	Edmund C. Pearson,	Newburyport,	Friday.
50	D. S. Kimball,	S. D. Hoyt,	Townsend,	1st and 3d Fri.
51	Ezra Batcheller,	Samuel Hunt,	North Brookfield,	Thursday.
52	A. B. Randall,	Wm. L. Chaffin,	North Easton,	2d Monday.
53	Chas. H. Stevens,	Joel A. Stratton,	Leominster,	2d and 4th Thurs.
54	John B. Gough,	S. C. Chamberlain,	Berlin,	1st and 3d Mon.
55	I. D. Paull,	C. M. Cooley,	Taunton,	3d Monday.
56	Chas. Beck,	Edmund A. Stone, (30 Jay St., Cambridge- port.)	Cambridge,	Monday.
57	P. Stearns Davis,	Geo. H. Howard,	East Cambridge,	Wednesday.
58	Reynolds,	Benj. S. Lovell, (East Weymouth.)	Weymouth,	Alt. Tuesdays.
59	Maj. J. A. Pratt,	Geo. F. Davidson,	Sterling,	1st Saturday.
60	Jesse L. Reno,	F. A. Cross,	Whitinsville,	2d and 4th Wed.
61	Nathaniel Lyon,	Amos Bartlett,	Webster,	2d and 4th Fri.
62	Chas. Ward,	Thomas Pickthall,	Newton.	1st and 3d Thurs.
63	Gen. Wadsworth,	R. T. Nash,	Natick,	Tuesday.
64	E. D. Baker,	Wm. J. Coulter,	Clinton,	1st and 3d Fri.
65	Clara Barton,	L. A. Powers,	Warren,	1st and 3d Wed.
66	S. C. Lawrence,	J. Everett Pierce,	Medford,	2d and 4th Tues.
67	Allen,	John L. Eaton,	Manchester,	Friday.
68	Benj. Stone, Jr.,	James Beale, (39 Arch St., Boston, Dorchester.)	Boston,	1st and 3d Tues.
69	J. R. Rice,	E. P. Miller,	Westminster,	Alternate Sat.
70	Geo. A. Custer,	A. W. Batcheller,	Millbury,	Thursday.
71	Kilpatrick,	E. P. Clark,	Holyoke,	Tuesday.
72	A. St. John Chambre,	Lysander Wood,	Stoughton,	1st and 3d Tues.
73	McPherson,	J. W. Sproul,	Abington,	Wednesday.
74	Hartsuff,	Jeremiah Looby,	Rockland,	Monday.
75	J. P. Gould,	M. J. Ferren,	Stoneham,	Monday.
76	Collingwood,	Christopher T. Harris,	Plymouth,	Wednesday.
77	Theron E. Hall,	George Bascom,	Holden,	1st Saturday.
78	David A. Russell,	Andrew C. Brigham,	South Abington,	Tuesday.
79	Chas. D. Sanford,	W. W. Montgomery,	North Adams,	Friday.
80	Joseph Miller,	Dexter Burnett,	South Hadley,	Alternate Sat.
81	Isaac B. Patten,	Charles T. Perkins,	Watertown,	1st and 3d Fri.
82	John Goodwin, Jr.,	Joseph Gregory,	Marblehead,	Thursday.
83	J. E. Wilder,	R. C. Waterman,	Hanover,	Last Tuesday.
84	M. E. Stowell,	Chas. S. Babcock,	South Deerfield,	Friday.
85	J. W. Lawton,	Aram Warburton,	Ware,	2d and 4th Wed.
86	Henry Wilson,	Elias E. Haynes,	Maynard,	1st Thursday.
87	Gen. S. Thayer,	Wm. L. Gage, (P.O. Box 24.)	Braintree,	2d and 4th Fri.
88	Paul Revere,	S. B. Turner,	Quincy,	Tuesday.
89	John H. Chapman, Jr.,	Henry P. Woodbury,	Beverly,	Thursday.
90	Ward,	Charles Newhall,	Danvers,	Monday.
91	E. P. Carpenter,	J. S. Carver,	Foxboro,	2d and 4th Tues.
92	Francis Washburn,	M. Coyle, Jr.,	Brighton,	1st and 3d Mon.
93	Ozro Miller,	Geo. R. Peirce,	Shelburne Falls,	Tuesday.
94	Revere,	A. A. Harrington,	Canton,	2d and last Thur.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Name of Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>Night of Meeting.</i>
95	Gen. E. W. Hincks,	C. H. Mansfield,	Saugus,	Monday.
96	Northboro,	F. M. Harrington,	Northboro,	1st Monday.
97	E. J. Griggs,	Thomas Dewey, (P.O. Box 153.)	Belchertown,	1st Monday.
98				
99	Calvin Cutter,	F. L. Harmon,	West Warren,	2d and 4th Fri.
100		R. H. Shiels,	Waltham,	Tuesday.
101	Charles Sumner,	L. H. Hopkinson,	Groveland,	Thursday.
102	J. C. Edmands,	C. S. Smith,	BillERICA,	Last Saturday.
103	Otis Chapman,	A. O. Kinney,	Chicopee,	Thursday.
104	E. Humphrey,	E. T. Bouve, (P.O. Hingham Centre.)	Hingham,	1st Thursday.
105	Wilder Dwight,	D. S. Woodman,	West Medway,	1st Thursday.
106				
107				
108	Everett Peabody,	Fred M. Edgell,	Georgetown,	2d and last Tues.
109	Ericsson,	Joel Whitney,	East Templeton,	Last Friday.
110	Capt. Horace Niles,	Galen Hollis,	Randolph,	1st Friday.
111	Jos. E. Simmons,	H. C. Sampson, (Pembroke Centre)	Pembroke,	1st and 3d Sat.
112	D. Willard Robinson,	W. C. Litchfield,	South Scituate,	2d and last Mon.
113	E. W. Kinsley,	Nathan Appleton, (10 Commonwealth Ave.)	Boston,	Alt. Mondays.
114	Col. C. R. Mudge,	Daniel L. Getchell,	Merrimac,	1st and 3d Fri.
115	E. S. Clark,	M. P. Palmer,	Groton,	Alt. Saturdays.
116	D. G. Farragut,	E. P. Brown,	South Gardner,	Wednesday.
117	Moses Ellis,	P. C. Grover,	Medfield,	2d Monday.
118	James L. Bates,	John R. Merritt,	Swampscott,	Monday.
119	Geo. C. Meade,	L. G. Babcock,	Lexington,	2d Wednesday.
120	E. E. Day,	Chas. R. Lowell,	Greenfield,	1st and 3d Wed.
121	H. A. Darling,	Richard F. Boynton,	Hyde Park,	3d Monday.
122	E. P. Wallace,	John O. Currier,	Amesbury,	Monday.
123	Parker,	Charles Grey,	Athol,	Thursday.
124	Justin Dimick,	L. F. Gammons,	East Bridgewater,	1st Thursday.
125	N. B. Shurtleff, Jr.,	John A. Mackie, (360 Washington St., Boston.)	South Boston,	1st and 3d Wed.
126	Geo. E. Sayles,	John Courtney,	South Adams,	Tuesday.
127	T. L. Bonney,	Josiah G. Cook, (North Hanson.)	Hanson,	1st Monday.
128				
129	Swift,	W. H. Tallman,	Somerset,	1st Wednesday.
130	E. P. Hopkins,		Williamstown.	
131	Geo. H. Thomas,	Geo. F. Parker,	Leicester,	2d and 4th Tues.
132	G. M. Dodge,	W. R. Armstrong,	Peabody,	Monday.
133	P. M. Whiting,		North Attleboro,	
134	Robt. A. Bell,	Isaac S. Mullen, (5 Anderson Place.)	Boston,	2d and 4th Wed.
135	E. A. Andrews,	Henry Harlow,	Shrewsbury,	Last Tuesday.
136	Geo. C. Marshall,	C. H. Wesson,	Rutland,	1st Saturday.
137				
138				
139	W. C. Kinsley,	W. E. Halliday,	Somerville,	1st, 2d and 3d Wednesdays.
140				
141				
142	D. B. Eames,	Geo. H. Patch,	So. Framingham,	Saturday.
143	C. L. Chandler,	Wm. B. Sears, (85 Devonshire St., Boston.)	Brookline,	Alt. Weds.
144	Chas. W. Carroll,	David L. Hodges,	Dedham,	2d and 4th Fri.
145	Wm. A. Streeter,	Wm. H. Goff,	Attleboro,	2d and 4th Mon.
146	R. G. Shaw,	George Delevan,	New Bedford,	3d Thursday.
147				
148	A. D. Weld,	S. C. Small, (Box 912, Boston.)	Winchester,	1st and 3d Tues.
149	Maj. Geo. L. Stearns,		Charlestown,	
150				
151	Maj. Boyd,	O. Warren,	West Newbury,	2d and 4th Sat.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, March 20, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 2. }

I. The following comrades are announced upon the Staff of the Commander, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly : —

AIDES-DE-CAMP.

A. B. R. Sprague, Worcester.	G. A. Churchill, Boston.
Arnold A. Rand, Dedham.	Charles H. Rust, Springfield.
Emerson Stone, Spencer.	A. A. Smith, Colrain.
D. H. L. Gleason, Natick.	Edwin A. Morse, Worcester.
Geo. H. Teague, Wakefield.	Nathan Appleton, Boston.
Albert Wood, Worcester.	Jacob Silloway, Jr., Canton.
Thos. Plunkett, West Boylston.	W. H. Hildreth, Peabody.
I. F. R. Hosea, Medford.	Geo. W. Creasey, Newburyport.
Henry W. Briggs, New Bedford.	Wm. H. Wade, Attleboro.

II. A list of the officers elected at the annual Encampment of this Department at Boston, January 17 and 18, appears in the Roster accompanying this order.

III. By resolve of the Council of Administration, this Department has subscribed for one hundred copies of the "Proceedings of all the National Encampments, with decisions of the Judge Advocate-General." This book is very valuable for reference, and a copy should be owned by every Post. Price, \$1.75 per copy, in half roan binding; 15 cents extra if sent by mail.

IV. In accordance with General Orders No. 6, from National Headquarters, a new national countersign is hereby promulgated to all Posts in good standing. After reading the countersign, the "Key" will be returned to these Headquarters at once.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, April 30, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3. }

The Grand Army of the Republic will celebrate Wednesday, May 30, 1877, as Memorial Day.

The Posts of this Department will place the annual offering of grateful affection and reverent memory on the soldierly graves of Massachusetts. The presence of the entire command of each Post, in honor of those who have passed through the agony of glory, is due to our comrades dead, and will be more impressive than the most extravagant display of the florist's art. The spirit sanctifies the humblest flower. Gratitude and love are more than sacrifice.

Time, which effaces the scars of civil war, makes the graves of its martyrs more sublime; for returning peace and prosperity will demonstrate the priceless value of their agony in a nation purified, two hostile armies reunited, and one transcendent flag revered. If we neglect the

heroic dead, a few years, which will place us by their side, will make us also know the bitterness of being forgotten by those whom our blood has helped to save. While we live, let us celebrate, with wreaths and martial music, their loyalty to liberty and the inalienable rights of mankind.

This solemn, tender, and triumphal service to those whose happiness is beyond our care, should be so conducted as to force upon the public mind the importance of providing for those comrades who remain and who are dying of poverty, illness, and reopened wounds. For these a soldiers' home in Massachusetts must be established. Gratitude to our disabled veterans demands a place of rest this side of the grave. One tithe of the sum required to preserve a historic monument of the patriotism of our fathers will preserve from anguish many hundred shattered monuments of the patriotism of their not less heroic sons. The tears of the nation are not yet dry. The hearts of the people are still grateful and warm. The mutilated survivors of a recent war, to whose twenty-eight hundred fights the battles of the Revolution were but skirmish fire, must not stand on the curbstone and beg their bread, as outcasts, under the shadow of the not more grandly heroic Old South Church—if monuments of patriotism be really worth preserving. A generous or just public will not refuse fifty thousand dollars for a soldiers' home, in the very Commonwealth that retains and exhibits, as a monument to her glory, two hundred and sixty-nine of *their* beloved and battle-frayed standards yet crimsoned with blood of these appealing men, who never lost a State banner and who brought these battle flags home.

The necessity of immediate combined action suggests that every Post Commander at once organize a soliciting committee of comrades or patriotic citizens to canvass his neighborhood for subscriptions to purchase a "Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic"; that the aid of patriotic women be most respectfully entreated; that the local clergymen be fervently implored to preach and to take up a collection in aid of this object, on the Sabbath preceding or following the coming Memorial Day; that a public meeting be called for the evening of Wednesday, May 30, 1877 (Memorial Day), in each town, for the purpose of presenting to our charitable fellow-citizens—both men and women—the pressing necessity of immediate assistance towards the purchase of a soldiers' home, now ready furnished and awaiting only the funds. Contributions or subscriptions should be then and there solicited from a grateful people for the fund, which is to be held by a board of trustees, consisting of His Excellency, Alexander H. Rice, Hon. William Gaston, Maj.-Gen. Charles Devens, Attorney-General United States, and the officers and Council of Administration of this Department. Revive the memory of a substitute's value.

Comrades: If Charity, Fraternity, and Loyalty are not empty words, we must act in concert, and at once. The companions of our marches are suffering too much, and dying of neglect too fast, to permit delay.

Commanders of Posts will, as soon as possible, report their action and its success to these Headquarters.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, May 4, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

I. Commanders of Posts are reminded that general orders and circulars sent to them are intended for the Post, and should be read at the first Post meeting after reception, and then properly filed with the Post papers.

II. All Post commanders who have not complied with the last clause of Section 4, General Order No. 2 (C.S.), relating to the return of the KEY, will do so at once.

III. Attention is called to the circular enclosed, in reference to the new badge. Requisitions should be forwarded at once if the badges are needed for Memorial Day. In accordance with a rule adopted by National Headquarters, badges must be paid for when they are ordered. Therefore, all Posts that have ordered badges should forward funds to pay for the same immediately; and all future orders must be accompanied by the money. Otherwise they will be filled by express, C.O.D. The price of badges to Posts will be seventy-five cents each, with six cents additional if sent by mail.

IV. All Posts or Comrades who have ordered copies of the "Printed Proceedings of the National Encampment," are notified to forward the price, \$1.75, at once, with fifteen cents extra if sent by mail.

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By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, May 1, 1877. }

CIRCULAR.

Reverend and Dear Sir: I appeal to you to help a most worthy cause. A score of years has not yet passed since the integrity of our National Union was threatened with disruption. The valor and patriotism of our loyal soldiery saved it. Many who composed that soldiery died on the field of battle, in hospital, or, after long suffering, from disease and wounds, in scattered homes. We cherish their memories. On every recurring Decoration Day we seek to celebrate and perpetuate their renown. This is well; but there is something better. Let us honor the dead by our care of the living. The Roman orator not only expressed his own conviction, but also that of every true patriot, when he said, "It behooves a grateful people to reward these citizens who have deserved well of the republic." The maimed, the sick, and the unfortunate of those who once fought bravely for the nation, claim our service. They are our charge. With generous sympathy we should help their need. We owe them care and protection, not as a charity, but as an act of justice.

No organization represents them more fully than the Grand Army of the Republic. That organization seeks to secure and support, in this brave and patriotic State, a soldiers' home. This can be done only by the liberal and loving assistance of men and women who have not forgotten.

In the name of the Grand Army of the Republic, we earnestly solicit your aid. We would respectfully suggest that, on Sunday, May

27, or on Sunday, June 3, you deliver a discourse in which you may call attention to our suffering comrades, and ask the people to contribute according to their ability. Let their appreciation of the soldiers' heroic sacrifice have expression in a soldiers' home.

Whatever funds may thus be raised will be held by a board of trustees, consisting of His Excellency Alexander H. Rice, Hon. William Gaston, Maj.-Gen. Charles Devens, Attorney-General United States, and the Officers and Council of Administration of this Department. All remittances may be sent by check to the order of Edward T. Raymond, Assistant Quartermaster-General, 608 Washington Street (Room 7), Boston.

With much respect,

Very truly yours,

J. F. LOVERING,

Chaplain Department of Massachusetts and Chaplain-in-Chief, G.A.R.

Approved:

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Please read this Circular to your congregation.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, July 14, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 5. }

I. The Semi-annual Encampment of this Department will be held at eleven o'clock A.M., on Wednesday, the fifteenth day of August next, at Amory Hall (corner of Washington and West Streets), Boston. The representation will be by the same delegates, but at the same ratio, (based on the reports for the quarter ending June 30), as in the last Annual Encampment.

Post Commanders must remember that the rule excluding from representation Posts which are in arrears for reports, is imperative, and will be strictly enforced.

II. The Commander of Post 15 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard and six comrades, for guard duty during the Encampment.

III. The attention of Post Commanders is called to Section 1, Article II., Chapter V., General Rules. Rules and Regulations regarding the reporting of the names of all comrades in good standing who have held the position of Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief or Department Commander.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, Aug. 1, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 6. }

I. The following comrades are hereby appointed Assistant Inspectors for the Districts named, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

- District No. 1, I. W. Derby, Charlestown: Posts 23, 68, 113, 125, 134
 “ “ 2, W. H. Warner, East Boston: Posts 7, 11, 15, 32, 35.
 “ “ 3, J. F. Dalton, Salem: Posts 5, 45, 67, 89, 90.
 “ “ 4, W. E. Redman, Lynn: Posts 34, 82, 95, 118, 132.
 “ “ 5, S. C. Parsons, Lawrence: Posts 42, 49, 100, 101, 102, 108.
 “ “ 6, T. Talbot, Newburyport: Posts 39, 47, 114, 122, 151.
 “ “ 7, G. E. Filkins, Boston: Posts 26, 56, 92, 143, 149.
 “ “ 8, M. C. Beedle, Cambridge: Posts 30, 33, 57, 139, 148.
 “ “ 9, A. P. Barrett, Woburn: Posts 4, 12, 40, 66, 75.
 “ “ 10, G. P. Clark, Newton: Posts 29, 62, 81, 119.
 “ “ 11, W. H. Brown, Holliston: Posts 14, 18, 63, 142.
 “ “ 12, J. F. Dolan, Hudson: Posts 9, 43, 86, 96.
 “ “ 13, D. A. Patridge, West Medway: Posts 6, 22, 105, 117.
 “ “ 14, W. W. Scott, Worcester: Posts 10, 24, 70, 77, 135, 136.
 “ “ 15, A. S. Davidson, Clinton: Posts 28, 54, 59, 64.
 “ “ 16, E. P. Morton, Webster: Posts 25, 27, 61.
 “ “ 17, T. J. Ames, Leominster: Posts 19, 48, 50, 53, 69, 115.
 “ “ 18, E. J. Cushing, South Gardner: Posts 17, 109, 116, 123.
 “ “ 19, G. R. Ladd, Spencer: Posts 37, 38, 51, 131.
 “ “ 20, C. E. Woodward, Ware: Posts 65, 85, 97, 99.
 “ “ 21, C. L. Moody, South Hadley: Posts 16, 44, 71, 80, 103.
 “ “ 22, W. W. Foster, South Deerfield: Posts 20, 36, 84, 93, 120.
 “ “ 23, G. H. Kearns, Braytonville: Posts 79, 126, 130.
 “ “ 24, W. L. Gage, Braintree: Posts 58, 73, 87, 88, 104.
 “ “ 25, H. C. Sampson, Pembroke: Posts 31, 83, 111, 112, 127.
 “ “ 26, J. A. Whelan, East Weymouth: Posts 13, 74, 76, 124.
 “ “ 27, T. S. Atwood, Abington: Posts 8, 52, 78, 110.
 “ “ 28, H. C. Bonney, Dedham: Posts 72, 91, 94, 121, 144.
 “ “ 29, Fred Thayer, Taunton: Posts 3, 55, 145.
 “ “ 30, Wm. Saunders, New Bedford: Posts 1, 46, 129, 146.

II. Acting Assistant Inspectors are hereby relieved from further duty, with the thanks of the Department Commander for their services, and all orders inconsistent with the foregoing appointments are hereby annulled.

III. So much of Paragraph 1, General Orders No. 5 (C.S.), as is contained in the following words: “But at the same ratio, based on the reports for the quarter ending June 30,” is hereby revoked, so that it will read as follows: “The representation will be by the same delegates as in the last annual Encampment.”

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Aug. 3, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 7. }

The City Government of Boston, having formally invited this Department of the Grand Army of the Republic to participate in the ceremonies attending the dedication of the Army and Navy Monument, a grand parade of all the Posts of this Department is hereby ordered at Boston on Monday, the seventeenth day of September next.

The hour and place of assembly, with all details, will be announced in future Orders. The organization will be by counties, as at the last Department parades. Counties will organize at once, and present the names of commanders to these Headquarters for approval.

The courtesy of the City Government of Boston has been so fully manifested by their arrangements for the honor and comfort of the Grand Army and the occasion will be so fitting to exhibit the strength and discipline of our Order, which never stood higher in the regard of our fellow citizens than at this hour, when there might have been grave cause for our members to recollect their oaths and manifest their veteran loyalty to law, that the Commander feels it hardly necessary to urge the presence of every member of every Post at the ensuing parade. No other pageant of this century will offer to us such an opportunity of testifying the reverence of this association for our comrades dead, the veterans by land and sea, who have covered the capital of our Commonwealth with glory. Representing every arm of the service, every regiment and battery that went out to battle from this old city, our column, with its sixteen hundred wounded men, embodies all grand memories of loyalty in war; and only the large masses of our organization, in peace, permanently devoted to the cause of loyalty and charity, can most effectively impress the public mind with the paramount duty of charity to the living, and reverence for the dead. Only honorably discharged veterans are admitted to the ranks of our Order, which includes as a private comrade the ex-President, chief of all our armies.

Every Post Commander will at once report to these Headquarters how many marching men he will have in line on the seventeenth of September, and how many disabled comrades will attend, that carriages, bands, badges, and rations may be provided.

Comrades: This is the last parade that we shall ever make altogether through the streets of Boston. Let it be the largest, that the Grand Army of the Republic, with its soldierly service of the past and its loyal, charitable purposes of the future, may never be forgotten by this generation.

By order of
HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Sept. 11, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

In accordance with General Orders No. 7 from these Headquarters, the following details are announced for the parade of the seventeenth of September, 1877:—

This Department of the Grand Army of the Republic will constitute the first grand division, and will form promptly at nine o'clock A.M. in the

order given below, on the east side of Tremont Street, Boston, with the right resting at Boylston Street, making a continuous line, facing west and extending southerly through Tremont Street, towards Chester Square, to receive rations and witness the passage of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, which acts as escort of the column.

The Grand Army Posts of Suffolk, Plymouth, Bristol, Norfolk, and Essex Counties, in the order named, will constitute the first subdivision, under the command of Comrade George S. Evans, Senior Vice-Commander, whose headquarters will be at the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets, where Posts of the first subdivision will report promptly on arrival.

The Grand Army Posts of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Berkshire, Franklin, and Middlesex, in the order named, will constitute the second subdivision, under the command of Comrade George H. Patch, Junior Vice-Commander, whose headquarters will be at the corner of Tremont and Dover Streets, where Posts of the second subdivision will report promptly on arrival.

The following counties having organized and elected commanders, the same are approved and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

Comrade Henry R. Sibley,	Suffolk.
“ T. S. Atwood,	Plymouth.
“ Edwin Dews,	Bristol.
“ J. P. Jordan,	Norfolk.
“ J. Frank Dalton,	Essex.
“ William F. Draper,	Worcester.
“ George H. Copeland,	Middlesex.

The Posts of the Counties of Hampshire, Hampden, Berkshire, and Franklin will be attached to the command of Worcester County.

Posts will assemble at the above-mentioned time and place, and be immediately assigned to their proper position in line by County Commanders. A guidon will be placed at the proper point to indicate the right of each County.

Barges for invalids will be stationed at the intersection of Tremont Street and Shawmut Avenue, and will in the march follow the rear of the first subdivision. Each invalid intending to ride will apply to his Post Commander for a ticket, and will report at the barges.

All railroads centering in Boston have consented to grant half fare to Posts coming in uniform, and to their musicians.

The arrangement as to trains, their arrival and departure, whether regular or special, will be left exclusively to Posts.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[To be substituted for General Orders No. 8.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
BOSTON, Sept. 13, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

In accordance with General Orders No. 7 from these Headquarters, the following details are announced for the parade of the 17th of September, 1877:—

The Headquarters of this Department will be at the junction of Tremont and Boylston Streets after 9.30 A.M., until the column moves.

This Department of the Grand Army of the Republic will constitute the first grand division, and will form promptly at nine o'clock A.M., in the order given below, on the east side of Tremont Street, Boston, with the right resting at Boylston Street, making a continuous line, facing west and extending southerly through Tremont Street, towards Chester Square, to receive rations and witness the passage of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, which acts as escort of the column.

During this passage of the escort, the Grand Army of the Republic will stand steadily at attention; and by express order, no salute by officer or man is to be paid to any one.

The signal for the command "attention" will be given by one gun, at eleven o'clock.

The Grand Army Posts of Suffolk, Plymouth, Bristol, Norfolk, and Essex Counties, in the order named, will constitute the first subdivision, under the command of Comrade George S. Evans, Vice-Commander, whose Headquarters will be at the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets, where Posts of the first subdivision will report promptly on arrival.

The Grand Army Posts of Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Berkshire, Franklin, and Middlesex, in the order named, will constitute the second subdivision, under the command of Comrade George H. Patch, Junior Vice-Commander, whose Headquarters will be at the corner of Tremont and Dover Streets, where Posts of the second subdivision will report promptly on arrival.

The following Counties having organized and elected Commanders, the same are approved and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

Comrade Henry R. Sibley,	Suffolk.
" T. S. Atwood,	Plymouth.
" Edwin Dews,	Bristol.
" J. P. Jordan,	Norfolk.
" Charles H. Chase,	Essex.
" William F. Draper,	Worcester.
" George H. Copeland;	Middlesex.

The Posts of the Counties of Hampshire, Hampden, Berkshire, and Franklin will be attached to the command of Worcester County.

Posts will assemble at the above-mentioned time and place, and be immediately assigned to their proper position in line by County Commanders. A guidon will be placed at the proper point to indicate the right of each County.

The Command will move by columns of platoons of eight files front with a guide; and unless otherwise ordered or to pass obstacles, will retain this formation throughout the parade, preserving wheeling distance; and no marching salute will be paid to anyone, unless it should be announced that His Excellency, the Governor, will receive such a salute as the column passes the State House. In case of such event, of which notice will be given on or before the march, the highest honors will be paid by officers, bands, drum corps, and standards; but men in ranks must be cautioned not to salute while marching.

Barges for invalids will be stationed at the intersection of Tremont Street and Shawmut Avenue, and will in the march follow the rear of the first subdivision. Each invalid intending to ride will apply to his Post Commander for a ticket, and will report at the barges.

All railroads centering in Boston have consented to grant half fare to Posts coming in uniform, and to their musicians.

The arrangement as to trains, their arrival and departure, whether regular or special, will be left exclusively to Posts.

By order of

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
	608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
GENERAL ORDERS }	BOSTON, Nov. 10, 1877. }
No. 9. }	

The Posts of this Department are heartily congratulated on the success of their soldierly parade of September 17. The returns show that there were six thousand seven hundred and nineteen men in the Grand Army Division.

The Commander gratefully thanks the command for their successful efforts to aid him in impressing the public mind with the numbers of our Association, and the just claims of the gallant men who have borne the battle-flags of Massachusetts, and who now cherish with tender solicitude their suffering comrades, and the widows and orphans of those who have died in her defense. Comrades: As you marched with the old army swing, the tears and cheers of the people showed you that their great, warm heart had not forgotten. Let it never forget while one of our sixteen hundred wounded men, or of our thousands of veterans survive. Stimulate this memory to practical, active sympathy.

Each Post is desired to choose at once a committee of soldiers and citizens, to canvass their town and entreat immediate subscriptions for the purchase of a soldiers' home, now attainable at sixty per cent less than cost, ready furnished for immediate occupancy, and which is to be partially supported by light industrial pursuits of the inmates. Every care must be taken that no unworthy agent be authorized to receive money. A single mistake may create such public distrust as to paralyze our efforts.

The example set by Post 7 of Boston is recommended. That Post, by recent vote, contributes a certain sum to the purchase, and guarantees an annual subscription of fifty dollars for the support of a soldiers' home. Such subscriptions, with annual subscribers among the citizens, and an appropriation by the Legislature of the State, are among the means proposed for maintaining the institution.

Vigorous, concerted action now, is a duty to the suffering men who have marched with us, and stood by us in the trying hours of the immortal past. If only one person in forty throughout this State will give one dollar, our old flag can fly this winter over a soldiers' home in Massachusetts. Can it be possible that a people which readily gave one thousand dollars for a substitute in the day of their fear, will be utterly deaf, in the hour of safety, to the call of gratitude?

Comrades, make a charge along the whole line and offer to your fellow-citizens the privilege of giving, or, if they choose, refusing a dime to shelter the agonized men, to whom they owe the fact that they themselves have any homes and firesides today. Entreat *alms* in the blessed name of *charity*, though this trifling payment for a service that has left disease and anguish as a "monument of patriotism," is a debt of conscience—a duty of religious gratitude. On your knees, if need be, implore the assistance of the patriotic women of the land.

Effort will insure a response. Post 53 of Leominster, a town of but five thousand inhabitants, has raised nearly six hundred dollars; and Hanover, a town of eighteen hundred people, has raised by a fair, nearly twelve hundred dollars, net, for a soldiers' monument and the home. In the face of such examples, the Grand Army of the Republic may compel success.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, NOV. 12, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 NO. 10. }

I. The attention of Post Commanders is called to the necessity of absolute promptness in making their reports on the first days of January, April, July and October. General Orders No. 5 from the Commander-in-Chief demands immediate attention. The neglect of some Post Commanders is endangering the soldierly standing of this Department.

The delay in sending in promptly at the due time the reports which require but thirty minutes to make out, is inexcusable; and to avoid the unjust disgrace of this Department and its many prompt Post Commanders, the burden of unsoldierly neglect will be placed where it belongs. Henceforth, delinquent Posts in Massachusetts, with the names of their Post Commanders, will be published in General Orders, to be issued throughout this Department and transmitted to National Headquarters.

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By order of
 HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 608 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 7, }
 BOSTON, NOV. 22, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 NO. 11. }

I. Comrade Frank H. Butler of Post 7 is hereby appointed Assistant Inspector for District No. 1, vice I. W. Derby resigned. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. The attention of commanders and surgeons of Posts is called to Circular No. 1, from the Surgeon-General's office, dated Oct. 1, 1877, which has been forwarded to Posts. Blanks of Form F, on which the annual report is to be made, are herewith inclosed. This report must accompany the Adjutant and Quartermaster's reports for fourth quarter, 1877. Only those wounded comrades are to be reported who were omitted last year, and those who have been admitted this year. A copy of this report must be retained in the Medical Descriptive Book of the Post. In case a Post has no wounded comrades to report, the blank F will be returned to these Headquarters so endorsed.

III. Posts must bear in mind that the first meeting in December is the time appointed for the election of Post officers and representatives to the Department Encampment. A blank is herewith inclosed on which Posts are to make the return of election of Post Commanders and delegates and alternates. The following resolution, adopted at the annual meeting of this Department, held in Boston, Jan. 17 and 18, 1877, is published for the information of Posts:—

“*Resolved*, That in the future, the basis of representation by Posts to the Department Encampment, shall be determined by the number reported in good standing on the reports for the quarter ending September 30.” The basis of representation remains as heretofore.

IV. The order announcing Mustering Officers will be issued early in December, and the Chief will be governed by the wishes of Posts in their selection, when practicable. Recommendations must be forwarded on or before December 30.

By order of
 HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3,
BOSTON, Dec. 1, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 12.

In pursuance of a vote of the Council of Administration, the Headquarters of this Department are hereby transferred to No. 53 Tremont Street, Room 3 (Suffolk Savings Bank Building).

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3,
BOSTON, Dec. 24, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 13.

I. The following-named comrades are hereby designated as Mustering Officers, and will install the officers of the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

Fred. S. Gifford, New Bedford, 1; H. A. Cushman, Taunton, 3, 55; Samuel Dalton, Salem, 5; John Scates, Boston, 7, 32; Benj. S. Lovell, East Weymouth, 8, 73; T. L. Kelly, Boston, 15; J. G. B. Adams, Lynn, 29, 66, 78; W. W. Woodbury, Somerville, 30; H. B. Hibben, Scituate, 31; J. L. Parker, Woburn, 33, 75; Geo. T. Roberts, Chelsea, 35; J. A. Joslyn, Brookfield, 38; H. B. Peirce, Abington, 39, 139; C. H. Richardson, Lowell, 42; H. C. Sherwin, Ayer, 48; Tristram Talbot, Newburyport, 49; Geo. H. Patch, South Framingham, 53; John McKay, Jr., Cambridge, 56; Geo. S. Evans, Cambridge, 57; Geo. S. Merrill, Lawrence, 58; F. L. Harmon, West Warren, 65; C. C. Emery, Boston, 68; Stephen Felton, Marblehead, 82; J. F. Dolan, Hudson, 86; J. P. Jordan, Quincy, 88; I. H. Edgett, Beverly, 89; W. T. Damon, Danvers, 90; F. H. Moore, Warren, 99; Sol. Nelson, Georgetown, 108; R. C. Waterman, Hanover, 111; M. Scannell, Lynn, 118; D. E. Gale, Amesbury, 122; James H. Wade, Revere, 125; Chas. H. Chase, Salem, 132; Thomas Sherwin, Boston, 144.

II. Post Commanders will at once put themselves in communication with their Mustering Officers, giving time and place of installation. In case of the absence of the comrade designated above for any Post and where no comrade has been assigned, any Past Post Commander in good standing (except the retiring Commander) may act. In no case will the officers of any Post be installed until all reports and dues have been forwarded. See page 7, of the Service Book.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

HENRY WILSON, Jr.,

Chief Mustering Officer.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Dec. 26, 1877. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 14. }

I. The Annual Encampment of this Department will be convened in Amory Hall (corner of Washington and West Streets), Boston, on Wednesday, Jan. 16, 1878, at 7 o'clock P.M., for the election of Department officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before it. Posts are entitled to the following ratio of representation: One delegate for every fifty members reported in good standing September 30, with one additional for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to at least one delegate. Post Commanders are members of the Encampment by virtue of their office.

II. The Commander of Post 7 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and at least six sentinels for duty during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General at 6.30 P.M. on the 16th at the Hall for instructions.

III. The Adjutants', Quartermasters', and Surgeons' Reports, together with all dues and a list of delegates and alternates to Department Encampment, should be forwarded to these Headquarters on or before Jan. 10, 1877. The Rules require the exclusion from the Encampment of any Post failing to make complete returns, especially Surgeon's Report on Form F. Every Post has received one of the Surgeon's blanks, which is to be filled out in accordance with Circular No. 1, dated Oct. 1, 1877, from the Surgeon-General's Office. Attention is also called to Paragraph XI., General Orders No. 11, from these Headquarters. The blank for reporting delegates and alternates that has been furnished to Posts must give name and "Post-office Address" of new "Post Commander"; but this blank, as well as the Adjutant's and Quartermaster's Reports for fourth quarter, must be signed by the officers of 1877.

IV. In accordance with Paragraph I., General Orders No. 10, from these Headquarters, the following Posts are reported in arrears for reports:—

Post 102, Billerica, C. S. Smith, Commander; Post 103, Chicopee, A. O. Kinney, Commander.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ENCAMPMENT AT BOSTON,
1879.

JANUARY 27 — EVENING SESSION

ENCAMPMENT called to order by Department Commander Horace Binney Sargent.

The Assistant Adjutant-General proceeded to call the roll, and 176 delegates and the following Department officers answered to their names : —

Department Commander,	Horace Binney Sargent.
Senior Vice Department Commander,	John G. B. Adams.
Junior Vice Department Commander,	John A. Hawes.
Medical Director,	W. Symington Brown.
Council of Administration :	{ George H. Patch.
	{ George W. Creasey.
	{ J. Frank Dalton.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	James F. Meech.
Assistant Quartermaster-General,	Edward T. Raymond.
Inspector,	Samuel Dalton.
Judge Advocate,	Andrew J. Bailey.
Chief Mustering Officer,	Samuel B. Spooner.
Past Department Commander,	George S. Merrill.

After notice had been given to the guard to admit all comrades who had the proper countersign, to the rear of the hall, the Encampment was called to attention, and prayer was offered by Comrade Chaplain John W. Lee of Post 11, Charlestown.

The next business was the reports of the officers. First in order came the report of the Commander.

GENERAL SARGENT'S ADDRESS.

Comrades of the Grand Army:

In full fraternity, and unabated loyalty to the Union that you have defended, we hold today our Twelfth Annual Convention. In making my third and final report, I desire to express my tender gratitude for the confidence that you have reposed in me for three successive terms as Department Commander. I only regret that I have not been able to serve you as effectively as I might have done if these three years had not been marked by a disastrous business depression which, acting differently on different interests, has created some difference of opinion as to measures of public policy. But through all the anguish of many of our members, and through all the stormy discussions of press and platform, we, as an organization, have pursued the even tenor of our way. We have not forgotten that we are only the charitable military order of the Grand Army of the Republic. The harmony of this association has not been disturbed, though under this depression the efforts to increase our numbers have been impeded. Poverty diminishes new entries, adds to the black-list "dropped for arrears," and increases the burden of demands for relief. The respect of society for the honesty of our purposes and the grandeur of your service in the immortal past, is manifested even by the occasional outbreaks of jealousy from politicians, lest the Grand Army should meddle with the living issues of the day. Our forbearance entitles us to expect, in behalf of invalid soldiers, liberal attention to our well-considered petitions. Our business is charity to loyal men and their suffering families. But we need legislative aid. The interests of the Grand Army in

A SOLDIERS' HOME IN MASSACHUSETTS

is not abated. The repeal of the recent statute, "in aid of indigent soldiers and sailors," who, however suffering, are not entitled to admission to the national homes, increases the pressing necessity of a State asylum for our invalids.

If the Legislature of last year had granted our prayer for an appropriation of \$100,000 only, the Commonwealth would have saved a large sum of money. We have made the "aid of indigent soldiers and sailors" our business for twelve years; we distribute an average of over \$30,000 per annum of our relief funds (\$21,774 the last year); and we are familiar with the record and necessity of applicants for aid. The Grand Army, as experts in the needs and merits of our fellow-soldiers, offered its unpaid service as almoners of Massachusetts. Petitions in aid of our prayer for an appropriation of \$100,000 for a soldiers' home, signed by 21,000 voters, were poured in upon the Legislature. Hearings were given, and, after full exposition of the

object desired and a statement by the Legislative Military Committee that if any further information were required, the petitioners would be summoned, the subject was referred to the next (the present) General Court, and an act was passed, in the form of additional pay, which, according to the Auditor's report, has already cost the Commonwealth a vast sum of money. The officers of this Department and the petitioners for a soldiers' home are not responsible for this legislation. We did not ask for this law, but for an appropriation to purchase and endow a permanent soldiers' home at a cost of much less than one year's expenditure under the statute referred to. The act is a legislative monument, and should be entitled "An Act for Saving at the Spigot and Wasting at the Bung." A vast sum spent on soldiers not entitled to pension for wounds or disability contracted in service — for no pensioned man could receive a dollar — is the indirect consequence of legislative indifference to the petition of twenty-one thousand voters for a soldiers' home. The taxpayers were spending at the moment of the repeal of the late statute, and in connection with the Act of 1877, \$75,000 a month in aid to soldiers, or at the rate of \$900,000 a year. We only asked them to give \$100,000 to an incorporated board of trustees of the Grand Army of the Republic, with Governor Rice, Governor Gaston and General Devens at their head, for the purchase and endowment of a permanent hospital and home. In matters of charitable discretion, a rigid construction, such as statutes demand, defeats the charitable intent. Thus the printed instruction of the State auditor to cities and towns that no pensioner could receive any relief under this statute, left many of the most meritorious soldiers, however small their pensions, to suffer, and opened the treasury to many men whose application the Grand Army would have rejected.

New legislation on the subject is now proposed. Why should not the Grand Army be considered? Does the tax-paying public know, does fashionable society know, that every night, while it is attending its theaters and balls, details of war-worn men from the Posts are watching by some dying comrade's bed? The men who bore the flag of the Commonwealth, that seems rather persistently to ignore their appeal, may be found every night tenderly holding the hands of dying men, watching and nursing them without any distinction of nationality or color, but because of the holy bond of combatant loyalty to the mother-land. Are not these soldiers fitter State almoners to their fellow-soldiers than town and city boards, acting under a statute that, if not loosely drawn, admits no equitable discretion, can possibly be? Is it not cheaper for tax-payers? The Surgeon-General's bureau would be unnecessary if a soldiers' home, under a medical and surgical superintendent, were established. We have in our Order in this State 1,600 wounded men.

Comrades, the time has come for plain speaking from me to you. The Annual Convention of this Department has thrice expressed its intelligent conviction that a soldiers' home is necessary; and the Grand Army is deficient in self-respect if it does not effectively express its dissatisfaction at the efforts of any member of the Order to thwart the desire of the organization. If those who owe their comfortable salaried positions to the Order, and are not a great deal wiser than the Grand Army of the State, would give a fraction of the labor to aid our purpose that they expend in sneering at soldier-beggars as "nine-tenths of them bummers," and a soldiers' home as a scheme for "a tramp's hotel," a creditable army home, at a small part of the sum which the late impracticable statute has cost the State, might lift its modest head by the side of the Danvers Insane Hospital and the Concord State Prison, as partly a substitute for both these costly asylums of wretched men.

If, after the late experiment, the State is not prepared to try the cheaper and just method petitioned for last year, it is but just and wise that the Posts of the Grand Army be preferred to municipal boards of towns and cities as State almoners to her soldiers. The burdens of taxation would be greatly increased if the Grand Army should for want of funds abandon its charitable work. If the Commonwealth trusted you to defend its flag, can it not trust you to dispense its charity to your own comrades? The indorsement of some one of our 131 relief committees upon an applicant's petition for aid would be a guide to the State charity. Every Post has such a local committee.

Whether our prayer this year for a soldiers' home be referred to the next Legislature or not, we ought to make a small beginning with the sum of about \$10,000 in our hands. The Probate Court has decided the claim for Miss Sever's bequest in our favor, provided within a reasonable time we establish a Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts. That bequest will be lost if we do not act. The trustees may decide that a beginning be made at once; and I can hardly doubt that with caution, ingenious economy, and the never-failing aid of charitable women, success sufficient to justify more than one demand upon the Legislature will be attained. The great State of New York this month opens its State Home for Soldiers. Shall Massachusetts begin with three veterans in a garret? I am indebted to the Chaplain-in-Chief for many valuable suggestions. They are closely connected with great social truths. The difficulty in the way of making these truths efficient lies in the fact that social questions are so closely connected with legislation, politics, parties, and nominations, that you who have risked your lives to save a nation are as timid as girls about shaping its destiny, lest we should bring the Grand Army into politics. With your experience in discipline and effective administration, and with

your sad knowledge of the difference between poverty and crime, your organization is entitled to take an instructive position. Debates upon social questions in *Pöst* or public meetings would be more entertaining and useful than many of our dramas. Society would be better today for these lessons of efficient government that army life and stern, prompt justice have taught us. The people have not yet half a government. How to have a thing done and how not to have it done seems to be the broad distinction between military and civil administration.

These questions are of interest when we see some of our comrades suffering from the temptations of poverty, and starving rather than yield, while the benevolent public is enormously taxed to make a palatial State prison. No soldier, who has slept hungry under rain and snow, can reflect without pain that many a comrade's family, if not unhoused, is unfed or half-fed, on Christmas Day; while many irreclaimable scoundrels, within prison walls, are stuffed with roast turkey, plum pudding, and mince pie, as if burglary, rape, and murder were in the Ten Commandments, and these men were the medal scholars. We forget in reading the Bible that when Christ commanded us to tenderly visit the prisoner, the prisons were filled with debtors and innocent men; for short work was made of thieves and cutthroats. When we think of the blessing that even the bleakest wing of a costly and comfortable penitentiary would be to our homeless or work-housed men, we remember the advice of Erasmus and Sir Thomas More, who, following the example of the Romans and other nations, recommended the mines as prisons where convicts could not compete with ordinary industries, and which are capable of indefinite enlargement, and add new wings whenever a new shaft is sunk or a new gallery is opened.

I am aware that "parliaments have their passions like individuals." But I am asking only justice; I am backed by the entreaty of many thousand men to whom Massachusetts owes a debt that she never can pay. If I am importunate in my advocacy I will not believe that a legislative body will punish me by resistance to the entreaty of the Grand Army and the wounded soldiery of the State. For that would be immortal infamy, and even to those legislators who said deprecatingly to last year's military committee: "If you do report a bill for a soldiers' home, recollect we shall feel obliged to vote for it." Such two-faced friends of soldiers ride to power on the soldier tide. They eulogize the soldier dead. So Portugal called Camoens, their hero-poet, "The Great," after he had died in a poor-house of her capital. How many a wounded, war-worn pauper in Massachusetts work-houses today could say, in Spenser's words:—

"Full little knowest thou, that hast not try'd,
What hell it is, in suing, long to bide:
To fawn, to crouch, to wait, to ride, to run,
To speed, to give, to want, to be undone!"

"History is philosophy teaching by examples." We are treading in the same steps of injustice, confusing poverty, and crime, that other nations have taken and regretted.

The legislative indifference to our appeal for an asylum for maimed heroes who must starve or beg, coupled with the prevailing tone of legislation in regard to tramps,—as all men, who, evicted by the sheriff and looking vainly for labor at home, may be styled, when, fainting in their wandering for work, they seek a morsel of food at a farm-house door,—reminds me of that dark page of English history when England enacted her first poor law, after the soldier homes of the Knights Templar and the charitable convents were destroyed. Early England knew no poor laws, and had no need of them. Soldierly and religious charity provided "soldier homes." After the wars of the Crusades, the Knights Templar opened wide their doors to the wretched wrecks of armies. To relieve the poor, to maintain free hospitality, to defend the Holy Land, for which the crusaders had shed their blood, was the bond of their society. Under this tenure they held their land: a bond singularly like ours, of Fraternity, Charity, and loyal purpose to maintain what they had won. In the same noble field the religious houses of England, until Harry the Eighth destroyed them, relieved the kingdom from the burden of the poor; and high authority, speaking of the workings of charity in the hands of these associations, has said: "It is most certain that a purely civil administration has never since been able to do it with half the efficacy to the poor, nor with a tithe of the convenience to the public. The principle of charity has been sacrificed to the change, and the Christian bond between rich and poor almost irrevocably broken."

How true these words seem when we compare the real good done by the Grand Army, the charitable Knights Templar of this age, in the intelligent, discriminating, tender, painstaking distribution of \$21,774 in this State during the past year, with the wasteful and unjust result, under the statute of 1878, where the men, who are disabled by wounds, were excluded from its benefits by the unyielding letter of the law! That first poor law of England, the first provision made for the beggar, after Templars, and Hospitallers, and religious houses had been compelled to close their doors on the worn-out soldier, went further than the anti-tramp statutes of Vermont and the other States. It did not content itself with imprisoning the traveler who should beg for money or food. The first poor law of England (27 Henry VIII., c. 25, 1535), followed by God's judgment, as such laws will ever be, ordered the beggar who was able to work to be whipped back to the place where he was born, there to get his living by compulsory labor; and if he repeated his offense to have "the gristle of his right ear cutt off;" and for the third offence to be

adjudged and executed as a felon. God grant that we may never have such a Grand Army badge as that! The traveling apostles, without scrip or money in their purse, would have had a rough time of it in England, as they now have in some of our New England States. But to provide work for men "able to work," which statutes overlook, and our industrial home proposes to do, soon became necessary. A little later, Edward the Sixth had to surrender his fee farms for three years, "to be bestowed about repairing of walls, bridges, setting the poor on work."

To punish men able to work for not working, or amiably starving when no work can be had, is like Mrs. Partington's attempt, with purblind spectacles on her old nose, to mop out the Atlantic as it rolled its flood-tide in a hurricane up Portsmouth's streets and flowed under her doors. When the voting majority bear arms, to punish for idleness, and not give work, is like sitting down on an earthquake. Wise Queen Elizabeth, by sweeping laws, provided for private places of employment for the poor. "Maimed soldiers" are a principal care in the most celebrated of her charitable statutes.

I have gone over these details of history because events are repeating themselves. We are passing through an epoch of unparalleled distress, when "maimed soldiers" may be tramps as before. For years we have been promised, with each succeeding spring and autumn, better times, while the active cause of worse ones was in full exercise. Employment is as hard to get as ever. As we are getting older and fewer, the power to remedy the evils of poverty among our comrades and their families is growing weaker. Every year will show the increasing necessity of an asylum for our "old men." The national homes cannot hold a twentieth part of the Federal wounded survivors of the war, to say nothing of the Confederates, who may be as reasonably expected to demand admission to these national homes, or refuse appropriations to our pensioners, as to insist on Mosby's being United States Consul at Hong Kong. There are also, as you know, many cases requiring permanent care that do not come within the national rules of admission. We want to combine the hospital for the temporary relief of invalids with the employment bureau and industrial home.

The political bearing of our appeal is worthy the attention of statesmen. There is no one of us who would let a brave old antagonist perish of his wounds and die in the gutter. Yet the demand, certain to arise, of the Confederate soldier to be admitted to our national asylums will be disagreeable, and, on refusal, appropriations for our own pensioners will be imperiled. A bitter strife would follow the demand. It is the part of wisdom for Massachusetts to forefend against this, and to set, or rather follow, the example of letting each State provide an asylum for

its own quota, even if the nation, now united, should see fit to maintain the present national asylums for the worn-out, homeless, kinless, expatriated soldiers of either side who do not care where they live or die. Other States have set us the example. Massachusetts, foremost in exciting the strife and enlistment, and posing on her money record, is now behind her sister States in providing an asylum for her disabled sons.

Retrenchment is the excuse for doing nothing now. Meanwhile, many a soldier's old wounds are reopening. If we mean retrenchment, let us not economize in bandages and lint, in roof and food and fire for disabled men, pensioned or not. It might be economy to follow the good housekeeping example in regard to servants, by discharging half our legislators, instead of underpaying a costly army of cheap ones. Let the people revise the basis of representation on a plan of larger districts, and give sufficient pay to half as many competent law makers. Half as many legislators, half as many sessions, half as many laws, would be the grand economy. Cheaply-made statutes are the prolific mothers of lawsuits. Every day makes it plainer to this people that God is not on the side of the largest legislative battalions. Our large assemblies have almost become mobs from their size. Must soldiers be exiled from the State on the plea of economy, when a change of our system could give them a home and pay to a sufficiently large Legislature more than a shoemaking journeyman's wages?

Comrades, we must exert a social power. A generation is now taking our places, which regards us with the same indifference that confronted the men of the Revolution when they sued for their pensions. Of course, party newspapers, and platforms, and aspirants for the presidency, will periodically "recognize the priceless value" of your services. But, if the little element of patronage intrudes itself, if custom-houses or consulships are in question, it may be better to have been a truly loyal, stay-at-home politician or a truly disloyal guerilla.

Frederick the Great said, "Offices are like lemons: we squeeze out the juice and throw away the rind." Soldiers of the rank and file get a sharper touch of the lemon-squeezer; and it is no wonder if, sometimes, such an one, unhoused and hungry, as he observes that strange spirit of squeamish waste which infects our politics, says in bitterness of heart, "ingratitude is the vice of republics." But, out of political circles, he is often reminded of the purer, earlier hours of his sacrifice by some true patriot, some warm-hearted citizen, who exclaims with glistening eyes, "I would give half I am worth for your one arm and your record." And, comrades, how few of us there are who could set the price at which we would give up our part in the immortal past. As I stand here for the last time I cannot conceive a keener pang to

manhood than to forego all right and title to comradeship with you — you, whose confidence and kindness have cheered three years of my life; you, whom I shall ever cherish with respect, affection, pride — grateful to God that, in the agonizing hour of the great motherland, I was permitted to humbly share your baptism of fire and shed my blood on the same triumphant side of human rights with you.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

BOSTON, Jan. 29, 1879.

Commander and Comrades of the Department of Massachusetts :

In compliance with the requirements of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, I have the honor to submit the following report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1878 : —

Number of Posts Dec. 31, 1877	136
Number of members reported in good standing, fourth quarter, 1877	8,113
Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1878	131
Number of members in good standing, fourth quarter, so far as reported	7,549

Charters or the following Posts have been surrendered during the year : —

Post 50	Townsend.
“ 102	Billerica.
“ 103	Chicopee.
“ 105	West Medway.
“ 120	Greenfield.
“ 129	Somerset.

Total, six.

One Post has been organized during the year namely: G. Wesley Nichols Post 44, Fayville (Southboro).

The following changes in the membership of the Department have taken place during the year : —

Number of members gained by muster-in	556
“ “ “ transfer	90
“ “ “ reinstatement	1,361
Total gains	2,007

Number of members lost by death	96
“ “ “ honorable discharge, ...	78
“ “ “ transfers	132
“ “ “ suspension	2,155
“ “ “ dishonorable discharge, ...	1
Total loss	2,462
Total gain	2,007
Excess of losses over gains	455
Number of rejections during the year	24

Number of comrades entitled to seats in this Encampment, 331. This is based on 128 Posts, that number having made complete returns for fourth quarter, 1878.

There are no Posts in arrears for reports of any nature prior to fourth quarter. In this connection I desire to congratulate the Post officers of the year just closed for the generally prompt and correct manner in which their reports have been made. There are some Posts that are tardy in the above respects, but generally Post officers have found it as convenient to forward their reports when they were due, viz.: on the first days of the quarter, as to delay, be notified, and possibly be reported in General Orders, thereby causing delays at Department and National Headquarters. I most sincerely trust that in the future all reports of Posts will be as promptly and still more correctly made than ever before. The latter is an especially important matter; and if officers of Posts will follow instructions on the blanks and in Rules and Regulations, there need be no reports returned for correction.

I desire again, as in previous reports, to call the attention of Post officers to the custom so prevalent of sending money through the mails in letters. It is a common matter to receive letters so heavy with the hard money of the times, that the envelopes are broken and will not hold the enclosures except by careful handling. A recommendation that remittances should be made in a different form would seem almost superfluous, as it would be but a repetition of previous suggestions.

The Department Inspector will undoubtedly deal at length with matters pertaining to the inspection of the Department. I desire, however, to record my recommendation of the system as put in operation the past year. I believe it is a system that already has been, and if continued will be, of the utmost benefit to the Posts of this Department.

I am led to this conclusion not only by my own experience in visiting Posts,—and I have had the honor of visiting a few Posts officially,—but also from what I hear from comrades in all parts of the Commonwealth.

My experience with Posts and comrades has confirmed my previous opinion that an effort should be made in this Department looking to such a change in Rules and Regulations as will give Posts more discretionary power in regard to the suspension and dropping of comrades, and especially in reference to the amendment to Section 4, Article IV. Chapter V., General Rules, as passed at the last annual meeting of the National Encampment, as I understand that these matters will be presented at the proper time by a number of Posts who will be represented at this Encampment. I trust this matter will receive such attention at your hands as you may deem it deserves.

Comrades: As I present this my third report as Assistant Adjutant-General of this Department, I beg to express to the Commander and officers of the Department, and to all comrades with whom I have had dealings, my grateful and hearty appreciation of the kindness and courtesy shown to me at all times.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1878.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand as per report of 1877	\$ 58.59	
Dues received, first quarter, 1878	650.36	
“ “ second quarter, 1878	639.50	
“ “ third quarter, 1878	630.00	
“ “ fourth quarter, 1878	626.32	
Received for books and blanks	180.41	
“ “ badges	245.25	
“ “ sundries	25.30	
Total receipts		<u>\$3,055.73</u>

EXPENDITURES.

As per vouchers No. 250 to No. 294 and No. 296 to No. 330 inclusive	\$3,045.14	
Cash on hand	10.59	
		<u>\$3,055.73</u>

ASSETS.	
Due from Posts for dues	\$612.00
“ “ “ sundries	33.22
Value books and blanks on hand	68.89
“ office furniture	175.00
“ colors	30.00
Cash on hand	10.59
Total assets	<u>\$929.70</u>
LIABILITIES.	
Inspectors' expenses	\$117.92
National Headquarters, for dues, fourth quarter, 1878	115.35
National Headquarters, badges and supplies	487.50
	<u>720.77</u>
Excess of assets over liabilities	<u>\$208.97</u>
(Signed)	E. T. RAYMOND, <i>Assistant Quartermaster-General.</i>

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 28, 1879.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In compliance with Section 1, Article V., Chapter 5, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, I have the honor to submit my consolidated report of inspection, with duplicate copy to be forwarded to the Inspector-General at National Headquarters.

On entering upon my term of office for this year, I suggested that the inspecting be done by the Department officers; and I can safely say, that every Post holding meetings has been thoroughly inspected, and the visits of the above officers have had a most beneficial effect.

I am indebted to the Department officers for the earnest manner in which my suggestion was adopted and carried out.

The entire cost to the Department of the yearly inspection is \$148.37, being less than any other year.

MEMBERSHIP.

Whole number of comrades in good standing at date of inspection, 7,909, which is a falling off from my last report of 372. On account of the depressing times many Posts have lost large numbers of comrades because of their inability to pay their dues. Many of these comrades are most worthy, and every effort should be made to reclaim them; and were it not for the exertions of several Posts in this very matter our membership would be much smaller.

RITUAL.

Generally the work of the Ritual is well performed; but I would suggest to all officers of Posts the importance of committing the service to memory, and the entire absence of all books.

During the ceremonies of our Order, Post countersigns cannot be too safely guarded, and comrades should be often instructed in all countersigns, thereby becoming familiar with them and not in danger of using them to Inspectors or to others who are not entitled to them.

I would call the attention of the Department to the reports of the Inspectors, now on file, and to the suggestions made by them in other papers on file at Department Headquarters.

CHARITY.

One hundred and fourteen Posts have expended for relief, for the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, \$21,779.07, which is nearly as much as reported in my last report. One hundred and two Posts have in their relief funds \$40,854.91, which is an increase of \$2,000 over last report. By our Regulations the Quartermaster of a Post is the custodian of all Post property, and is required to give bonds. This rule should be enforced by the Department, as only about two-thirds of the Posts now comply with it.

POSTS.

The Department now consists of 131 Posts.

69 Posts are reported in good standing (condition).

46 " " fair " "

15 " " poor " "

One Post is reported as not holding meetings, and could not be inspected. This Post has been reported by me in this condition three times, and some action should be taken by the Department.

I consider the Department in a most healthy condition, and would suggest that this year's form of inspection, having been productive of so much good, and the expense so small, be adopted by the Department for the ensuing year.

In concluding, I desire to thank you for your valuable assistance; also my thanks are due to all Department officers for courtesies extended.

Yours in F., C., and L.,

(Signed) SAMUEL DALTON,
Department Inspector.

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE.

BOSTON, Jan. 28, 1879.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

*Commander Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.**Comrades:*

I have the honor, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, to submit my annual report.

There have been submitted for my consideration the reports of proceedings of eight courts-martial, only two of which have received my approval. The necessity of having every comrade charged with an offense served with proper notice of time and place of holding the court, and also having him served with a copy of the charges and specifications, cannot be too strongly impressed upon the Posts of this Department.

My opinion has been asked upon nine questions involving the construction of by-laws of Posts and the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, all of which have been answered in writing and my decision given.

Two sets of by-laws have been submitted for my approval, both of which, after certain amendments had been made, have been approved.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) ANDREW J. BAILEY,

Judge Advocate.

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,

BOSTON, Jan. 29, 1879.

TO THE DELEGATES TO DEPARTMENT CONVENTION.

Comrades:

In obedience to Section 9, Article VI., Chapter III., Rules and Regulations, the Council of Administration submits the following report of its doings during the past year:—

The Council has held twelve regular and two special meetings.

We have carefully examined the accounts of the Assistant Quartermaster-General, and find them correct.

The total receipts from all sources has been . . . \$3,055 73

The total expenses have been, as per vouchers

Nos. 250 to 294 and 296 to 330 inclusive . . . 3,045 14

Cash on hand 10 59

There is also on hand a contingent fund of . . . 23 65

which sum has been forwarded by Posts who took affirmative action upon the request made by assistant inspectors relative to the establishment of such a fund.

The Department Convention, at its last session, after some debate, referred to the Council of Administration the matter of organizing in the Grand Army of the Republic of this State a mutual benefit association.

After a long and exhaustive discussion, during which each member seemed to have a plan of his own, the whole matter was referred to a special committee of the Council, with instructions to report at a subsequent meeting.

This Committee, after a very careful examination of all facts that could be obtained relative to the question, reported that it was impracticable and inexpedient to engraft such an association upon the organization as a whole. The report was accepted by the Council. But suggestions were made to assistant inspectors, that they recommend to each Post the advisability of forming local or Post "Mutual Benefit Associations" within their own membership, to be governed by such by-laws and rules as they may choose to adopt.

Believing that such associations would strengthen weak Posts, and retain the full membership of the stronger ones, such recommendations have been made by the Assistant Inspectors; and it remains for Posts to consider whether or not it would be for their benefit to adopt such suggestions.

In view of the fact that the State Aid law (Chapter 282, Acts and Resolves, approved May 17, 1878) has been repealed, the Council recommends to all delegates to this Convention the necessity of advising the members of the several Posts (whom they represent) keeping to the front in the matter, and, by public and private effort, labor to the end that such legislation be engrafted upon our statute books as shall benefit honorably-discharged soldiers and sailors who may not be entitled to aid from the State, or who do not receive pensions from the National Government. Believing that any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who volunteered his services and did his duty should never have to ask for charity within the walls of an almshouse, and thereby forfeit that right to human suffrage which the war for the Union gave to millions upon whom that right had never before descended, we believe it should be the duty of every true comrade to make a personal effort in that direction, which points to such recognition of services performed as shall forever preclude the possibility of such injustice being done to any survivor of those grand armies that made Freedom possible and our Union secure.

The Council recommends the necessity of all Posts taking some action relative to increasing our membership. The field in all quarters is large; many men have never affiliated with our Order; many good comrades have left it, and for no good reason. United action and energetic efforts in the right direction may incorporate new material and reclaim some of the old that has

gone out from our ranks. Time with his certain devastation will decimate our ranks; but our faith in the Grand Army should increase as our members grow less, and we should all labor with an eye single to the glory of the organization and its upbuilding.

In closing this report we would make especial mention of the kindness and hearty co-operation of the Assistant Adjutant-General, at whose hands we have at all times received all necessary courtesies and assistance which we, from time to time, have needed in the prosecution of our duties; and we believe he justly merits the thanks of all comrades who may have had any official transactions with the office of the Assistant Adjutant-General of the Department of Massachusetts.

We would also express our sentiments of regard to the retiring Commander, Horace Binney Sargent, for his unvarying kindness, his never-failing courtesy, and his unabated interest in all that pertains to the work of the Order.

Trusting and believing that the thanks and good wishes of all true comrades may attend him in his unofficial career through the many years of life to which we trust he may be spared,

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

GEO. H. PATCH,
GEO. W. CREASEY,
J. FRANK DALTON,
GEO. H. HOWARD,
Council of Administration.

On motion, the foregoing reports were received, accepted, and ordered to be placed on file.

Communications from Posts being next in order, the Roll of Posts was called, and Posts 15 of Boston, 26 of Roxbury and 78 of S. Abington, through their respective Commanders, submitted proposed changes to Rules and Regulations.

Individual communications were next in order; and Comrade Spalding of Post 11 and Comrade Ames of Post 12 submitted proposals for change in the Rules and Regulations.

On motion of Asst. Adj.-Gen James F. Meech, it was voted, That a committee of five be appointed at once by the Department Commander, and the Judge Advocate to be Chairman of the committee, to whom all proposed amendments to Rules and Regulations be referred without debate, the committee to report as early as possible tomorrow.

Committee: Andrew J. Bailey of Post 11, Hiram A. Wright of Post 26, C. S. Anthony of Post 3, Geo. H. Patch of Post 142, Benjamin S. Lovell of Post 58.

On motion, it was voted that when we adjourn tonight it be to meet at 10 o'clock A.M. tomorrow. An important matter had been overlooked until this moment, namely: the reading of the records of last meeting. On motion of Junior Vice-Commander Hawes, the reading of the records was dispensed with.

A report of committee appointed at the last meeting to arrange for a military ball for the benefit of the Soldiers' Home was called for; but the chairman, Comrade Appleton of Post 113, was not present, and the committee had no report to make.

Comrade M. A. Boyden of Post 10 of Worcester, moved, That a committee of seven be appointed by the Commander to report at the session tomorrow a list of delegates and alternates to National Encampment, and five comrades for the Council of Administration. The motion was seconded, when Comrade Maxfield of Post 42 of Lowell, offered an amendment making the committee nine instead of seven. The amendment was seconded; and after a brief discussion the motion as amended was carried. The Commander appointed the following committee:—

M. A. Boyden of Post 10, R. B. Wight of Post 63, T. E. Cutter of Post 49, R. F. Tobin of Post 30, S. B. Spooner of Post 16, Chas. J. Sadler of Post 34, Geo. L. Goodale of Post 66, T. J. Quinn of Post 57, J. G. B. Adams of Post 5.

Commander W. D. Cole of Post 18, Ashland, called attention to the State Aid laws of the Commonwealth, and suggested that some action be taken by this Encampment looking to the passage of an act that shall be just and equitable, and moved that a committee of five be appointed by the Commander to consider the subject of State Aid law, and report tomorrow.

Comrade T. H. Hill of Post 33, of Woburn, addressed the Encampment briefly in favor of the above proposition, and seconded the motion of Comrade Cole. A number spoke briefly on the above question, but their remarks were chiefly suggestions to the committee.

The motion was submitted to the Encampment, and was unanimously passed. The Commander appointed the following committee:—

W. D. Cole of Post 18, Henry Johnson of Post 134, Geo. H. Teague of Post 12, Peter Nolan of Post 75, Thos. H. Hill of Post 33.

The following dispatches were received and read : —

HARRISBURG, PA., Jan, 29, 1879.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Boston.

From the largest Department in the Union to the next largest, in Annual Encampment assembled, returns greetings.

(Signed) CHARLES T. HULL,
Department Commander.

And the following : —

HARTFORD, CONN., Jan. 29, 1879.

COMMANDER DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, G.A.R.,

Amory Hall, Cor. West and Washington Sts.

Comrades Department of Connecticut send soldierly greeting to Comrades Department of Massachusetts.

(Signed) CHARLES E. FOWLER,
Commander.

Comrade William Spalding of Post 11, Charlestown, moved that the above telegrams be placed on the Department records, and the Assistant Adjutant-General answer them in the name of the Department.

The motion was seconded and was unanimously adopted. At 9.30, there being no further business to transact at this time, the Encampment adjourned.

JANUARY 30. — SECOND SESSION.

The Encampment was called to order at 10 o'clock A.M. by Department Commander H. B. Sargent.

The roll was called by the Assistant Adjutant-General, and Commander Sargent, Senior Vice-Commander Adams, Junior Vice-Commander Hawes, Comrades Patch, Creasey, and Dalton of the Council, Assistant Adjutant-General Meech, Assistant Quartermaster-General Raymond, Inspector Dalton, Judge Advocate Bailey, Chief Mustering Officer Spooner, Past Department Commanders Cogswell and Merrill, and 195 delegates and alternates, answered to their names.

Prayer was offered by Chaplain Lee of Post 11, of Charlestown.

The Assistant Adjutant-General reported that the following answers had been returned as per instructions and in reply to those received last evening : —

BOSTON, Jan. 30, 1879.

CHARLES T. HULL,

Commander Department of Pennsylvania, G.A.R.,

Brandt's Hall, Harrisburg, Pa.

Massachusetts sends greetings to you and your Department. May your increase and interest continue.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Department Commander.

BOSTON, Jan. 30, 1879.

CHARLES E. FOWLER,

Commander Department of Connecticut, G.A.R.,

Hartford, Conn.

Your greeting received. Massachusetts hails you in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Department Commander.

Comrade Judge Advocate Andrew J. Bailey, for the Committee to whom was referred all proposed amendments to Rules and Regulations, submitted a report, which was taken up section by section. After considerable debate and the defeat of a motion by Comrade R. F. Tobin of Post 30 of Cambridgeport, to "lay on the table," the report, as amended by Comrade Ames of Post 12, and Comrade Frost of Post 43, was adopted, as follows : —

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

The Committee to whom were referred the several proposed amendments to Rules and Regulations, having considered the same, submit the following, viz. : —

Resolved, That the delegates representing this Department to the next National Encampment be and are hereby instructed to use their best efforts to secure the following changes in Rules and Regulations, viz. : —

Amend Section 3, Article IV., Chapter II., by striking out the last four lines, and insert the following : " A comrade thus discharged can be received again only in the Post from which he was discharged by a two-thirds vote of all the members present at a regular meeting, or by consent of that Post given by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting, notice of such application having been given at a previous meeting."

Amend Section 1, Article III., Chapter II., by striking out the whole of Section 1 and inserting as Section 1 : " A comrade having a

valid transfer card may be admitted to any Post, or readmitted to the Post which granted the transfer card, by a two-thirds vote of all the members present at a regular meeting."

Amend Sections 3 and 4, Article IV., Chapter V., by striking out Section 3, and inserting the following as Section 3: "If a comrade shall be one year in arrears in the payment of his dues, he *may* be dropped from the rolls and reinstated only by the Post which dropped him, by a two-thirds vote of the comrades present at a regular meeting, upon the payment of one year's dues."

And inserting as Section 4: "When a comrade is unable by reason of sickness or misfortune to pay his dues, they may be remitted by a two-thirds vote of all the members present at a regular meeting, notice of such application having been given at a previous meeting."

For and in behalf of the Committee,

ANDREW J. BAILEY,

Chairman.

The Committee appointed to nominate members of the Council of Administration and a list of delegates and alternates to National Encampment submitted their report, which was laid on the table until after the election of the Department officers.

On motion of Comrade William L. Coon of Post 12, it was voted that we now proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and that a committee of five be appointed by the Commander to collect, sort, and count votes for Department Commander.

The following committee was appointed:—

William L. Coon of Post 12, George J. Hinds of Post 15, John Kinnear of Post 30, Chas. H. Grant of Post 16, and J. Frank Dalton of Post 34.

Comrade Past Department Commander George S. Merrill nominated Comrade John G. B. Adams of Post 5 of Lynn, and Comrade R. F. Tobin of Post 30 nominated Comrade John A. Hawes of Post 1, New Bedford, for Department Commander for the ensuing year.

A ballot for Commander was had, and the Committee reported as follows:—

Whole number of votes cast	204
Necessary for a choice	103
John A. Hawes had	92
John G. B. Adams had	112

Therefore Comrade John G. B. Adams was declared elected Department Commander for the year ensuing.

Comrade Adams accepted the position in a brief speech, and closed by announcing that he should appoint Comrade James F. Meech as Assistant Adjutant-General.

On motion of Comrade John A. Hawes, the election of Comrade Adams as Commander was made unanimous.

No objection being made, the Assistant Adjutant-General was authorized to cast the unanimous vote of the Convention for Comrade John A. Hawes of Post 1, of New Bedford, for Senior Vice Department Commander.

The vote was cast as directed, and Comrade Hawes was declared elected. Comrade Hawes accepted the position and returned thanks for the very complimentary vote received.

The next business being the election of Junior Vice Department Commander, Comrade Ames of Post 12 nominated Comrade Benj. S. Lovell of Post 58, Weymouth; Comrade Churchill of Post 10 nominated Comrade Samuel B. Spooner of Post 16, Springfield; Comrade Peter Nolan of Post 75, Stoneham, nominated Comrade Thomas H. Hill of Woburn.

On motion it was voted that nominations be closed and we proceed to ballot.

As the voting progressed, it was noticed that the ballots were somewhat mixed, and it was therefore voted that all ballots bearing Comrade Spooner's name, whether designating the office or bearing the words Senior or Junior or other title, be declared as cast for Samuel B. Spooner for Junior Vice-Commander.

The Committee reported as follows:—

Whole number of votes cast	192
Necessary for a choice	97
Comrade Thomas H. Hill had	19
“ Benj. S. Lovell had	42
“ Samuel B. Spooner had	131

Therefore Comrade Samuel B. Spooner was declared elected Junior Vice Department Commander for the ensuing year.

By unanimous consent, Comrade W. Symington Brown of Post 75, Stoneham, was elected Medical Director by a ballot cast by the Assistant Adjutant-General.

Comrade John W. Lee of Post 11, Charlestown, was unanimously elected Chaplain for the ensuing year, by a ballot cast by the Assistant Adjutant-General, no objections being made.

The next business being the election of the Council of Administration, the report of the Committee on Nominations was taken from the table, the names as reported were again read, and a motion was made and seconded that the Assistant Adjutant-General cast the unanimous ballot of the Encampment for the names as reported by the Committee. Objections being made by a number of delegates, after some debate the motion was withdrawn. After still further debate, it was voted that the Encampment proceed to a ballot for five members of Council of Administration on one ballot. The Committee that had collected votes for other officers attended to a similar duty in this case and reported as follows: —

Whole number of votes cast	89
Necessary for a choice	45
Comrade George H. Patch had	74
“ George W. Creasey had	67
“ J. Frank Dalton had	62
“ George H. Howard had	74
“ Azel Ames, Jr., had	56
“ Theo. L. Kelly had	43
“ John Scates had	6
Scattering	8

And Comrades Patch, Creasey, Dalton, Howard, and Ames were declared elected, those being the names originally reported by the nominating committee.

The report of the nominating committee as to delegates and alternates to National Encampment was next considered; and it was voted, That the names be read by the Committee, and as each name was read, if there was no objection offered, the unanimous vote of the Encampment be cast by the Assistant Adjutant-General.

The list as read by the Committee was approved, and the following comrades were declared elected: —

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.		ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.	
Thomas Plunkett,	Post 28	Emerson Stone,	Post 37
DELEGATES.		ALTERNATES.	
P. Allen Lindsey,	Post 30	James F. Davlin,	Post 57
D. H. L. Gleason,	“ 63	M. A. Boyden,	“ 10
C. Frank Luther,	“ 79	Henry B. Thayer,	“ 22

E. P. Clark,	Post 71	Chas. H. Grant	Post 16
J. P. Maxfield,	" 42	Benj. S. Lovell,	" 58
William H. Hart,	" 25	Freeman C. Luce,	" 1
John McKay, Jr.,	" 15	John S. Fay,	" 43
A. J. Bailey,	" 11	H. B. Rowley,	" 93

On motion of Comrade C. A. Stott of Post 42, it was voted, That hereafter, in the report of the Assistant Quartermaster-General, the expenditures be summarized.

It was moved, that the salary of the Assistant Adjutant-General be reduced to \$1,000 per year; but on motion of Comrade Goodale of Post 66, it was voted, That the whole subject be indefinitely postponed.

The question of "where the next Encampment should be held" was discussed; and it was voted, That the Council of Administration consider the propriety of holding it at some other place than Boston. During the discussion of the foregoing, an invitation was received from Post 5 of Lynn, asking the Department to meet in that city at its next session.

This invitation was by consent referred to the Council.

Reference was made by several comrades to the beneficial effects of the visits of the Department officers to the Posts during the past year; and on motion of Comrade Fisher of Post 146, it was voted, That the Department officers be invited to visit each Post of the Department at least once during the coming year.

The Committee on State Aid submitted the following report:—

BOSTON, Jan. 30, 1879.

Commander and Comrades: Your Committee on State Aid would respectfully report that, after such deliberation as the brief time allowed us will permit, we would respectfully recommend that a committee of three be chosen by this Convention, to appear before this legislative committee and invite their attention to the following propositions, viz.:—

1. That the Law of 1872 be incorporated into a statute law containing the following features:—

That the cities and towns of this Commonwealth shall appropriate such sums as may be necessary to be applied to the assistance of needy soldiers and sailors and their families through the town or city authorities, or by a committee to be chosen for that especial purpose.

2. That no soldier or sailor shall be disfranchised on account of receiving such aid.

3. Your Committee would further recommend that such other provisions be incorporated in the Act as they may deem advisable; also that the comrades of this Department tender their aid and services in carrying out the provisions of this law.

(Signed)

W. D. COLE, *Chairman*,
HENRY W. JOHNSON,
PETER NOLAN,
GEORGE H. TEAGUE,
THOMAS H. HILL.

The report was accepted, the recommendations adopted, and the following comrades appointed as the committee of three, viz.: John A. Hawes of Post 1, W. D. Cole of Post 18, Thomas H. Hill of Post 33.

On motion of Comrade Geo. S. Evans of Post 30, it was voted, That the thanks of the Encampment be extended to the retiring Department officers, also to the Officer of the Day, Officer of the Guard, and Sentinels, for services rendered.

The following officers were installed by Past Department Commander William Cogswell: —

John G. B. Adams,	Department Commander.
John A. Hawes,	Senior Vice Dept. Commander.
Samuel B. Spooner,	Junior Vice Dept. Commander.
John W. Lee,	Chaplain.
George H. Patch,	} Council of Administration.
George W. Creasey,	
Azel Ames, Jr.,	

There being no further business to transact, the Encampment adjourned at 2.40 P.M.

Attest:

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1878.

	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
	53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
	BOSTON, Jan. 30, 1878. }
GENERAL ORDERS }	
No. 1. }	

Having been re-elected Commander of this Department of the Grand Army of the Republic, I hereby assume the duties of the office.

Comrades: This election of the same incumbent for the third term, and by 173 ballots out of 181 cast in the Annual Convention, has demonstrated a practical unity of sentiment as to the purposes of our Order, and especially in regard to a soldiers' home in Massachusetts. We have tried all forms of charity for eleven years, and know what we need for our disabled, homeless men.

In soliciting contributions for our charities, we are only asking justice, too long delayed. Our sons will blush for Massachusetts if she shall exile to immensely over-crowded national asylums in other States, far from friends and kindred, anguished men who have shed their blood for her in a war to which the battles of the Revolution were but skirmish fire, and of whom many are in danger of being buried with her paupers: men who helped to save the untold millions of the public funds, that would have been worthless if soldiers had forgotten *their* promises to the State; men who, having helped to give suffrage to 700,000 freedmen, are disfranchised in the poor-houses of Massachusetts today; men whom a short-sighted economy would exile a thousand miles from nearly three hundred of their own battle-flags, crimsoned with their blood: battle-flags which the old Bay State exhibits to strangers from other lands as trophies of her courage;—dear, grand old battle-flags, war-worn, shell-shattered, in rags, like the pauper-exiles who bore them.

To effect our objects we must increase our organization by making it more beneficial to its members. We ought to double our muster roll. To this end a mutual benefit association will be at once organized, to which none but members of the Grand Army of the Republic, in good standing, can belong. An entrance fee of one dollar, and on the death of any member of the Benefit Association a further assessment of one dime, are suggested as means to furnish a fund for the benefit of the family of the deceased, with a reserve in the treasury for the support of the Soldiers' Home. The larger the membership the greater will be the benefit assured. The Grand Army in this Department, by recruiting from the other soldiers of the State, could readily increase its muster rolls so as to assure the sum of one thousand dollars at least to the family of each deceased member. The Council of Administration will carefully consider all details of the association proposed and report to the Posts. Meanwhile each Post is desired to rapidly increase its membership, that the beneficial fund may be as large as possible.

II. The Commander affectionately thanks the Officers of the Staff for their services during the past year, and announces the following appointments:—

OFFICIAL STAFF.

James F. Meech of Post 10, Worcester, Assistant Adjutant-General.
Edward T. Raymond of Post 10, Worcester, Assistant Quartermaster-General.

Samuel Dalton of Post 34, Salem, Inspector.

Andrew J. Bailey of Post 11, Charlestown, Judge Advocate.

Edmund C. Whitney of Post 43, Marlboro, Chief Mustering Officer.

They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Future orders will announce other appointments on the Staff.

III. All official correspondence must be signed by Post Commanders and addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General (at 53 Tremont Street, Room 3), whose office hours will be, as heretofore, from 10 A.M. to 12 M., and from 2 to 4 P.M., except on Sundays and Saturday afternoons, when the office will be closed.

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, March 25, 1878. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 2. }

I. The following comrades are hereby announced on the Staff of the Commander, and they will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

Thomas Plunkett, West Boylston, Aide-de-Camp.

A. St. John Chambre, Franklin, “

William F. Chaffin, North Easton, “

F. L. Harmon, West Warren, “

Wm. H. Osbourne, East Bridgewater, “

George L. Sanborn, Holliston, “

W. C. Litchfield, South Scituate, “

Charles S. Anthony, Taunton, “

Leonard C. Lane, Waltham, “

G. H. Smith, Holyoke, “

Thomas G. Carver, Brockton, “

William B. Sears, Brookline, “

Dudley E. Gale, Amesbury, “

O. B. Wyman, Shrewsbury, “

Charles Newhall, Danvers, “

Frank A. Smith, North Brookfield, “

Albert A. Holt, Quincy, “

William M. Olin, Roxbury, “

George M. Fiske, Medfield, “

H. B. Rowley, Shelburne Falls, “

II. The Commander gratefully thanks the retired Aides-de-Camp for their service during the past term. They will report for duty to their respective Posts.

III. A list of the officers elected at the Annual Encampment of this Department, held at Boston, January 16 and 17, appears in the roster accompanying this order.

IV. In accordance with Special Order No. 3, from National Headquarters, a new national countersign is hereby transmitted to all Posts in this Department. After the countersign is read, the “key” will be at once returned to these Headquarters.

V. As all blanks for "reports" are now furnished free to Posts, but only on proper requisitions, Commanders of Posts that have not a supply will at once order one year's stock, that there may be no delay in promptly making reports, which are due April 1. Paragraph I., General Orders No. 10, Series of 1877, will be strictly enforced.

All remittances for dues and supplies should be made payable to the Assistant Adjutant-General.

VI. Requisitions for Badges that may be required for Memorial Day should be forwarded immediately, that a supply may be obtained.

VII. General Orders Nos. 7 and 8 from National Headquarters are hereby promulgated. Special attention is called to General Orders No. 7, particularly to Paragraph II.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

ROSTER, DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS, G.A.R., 1878.

ELECTED.

Horace Binney Sargent,	Salem,	Commander.
John G. B. Adams,	Lynn,	Senior Vice-Commander.
John A. Hawes,	Fair Haven,	Junior Vice-Commander.
W. Symington Brown,	Stoneham,	Medical Director.
William H. Savage,	Leominster,	Chaplain.
Charles W. Slade,	Boston,	Council of Administration.
George H. Patch,	S. Framingh'm,	" "
George W. Creasey,	Newburyport,	" "
J. Frank Dalton,	Salem,	" "
George H. Howard,	E. Cambridge,	" "

OFFICIAL STAFF.

James F. Meech, Boston,	Assistant Adjutant-General.
53 Tremont St., Room 3.	
Edward T. Raymond, Boston,	Asst. Quartermaster-General.
53 Tremont St., Room 3.	
Samuel Dalton, Boston,	Inspector.
218 Congress St.	
Andrew J. Bailey, Boston,	Judge Advocate.
61 Court St.	
Edmund C. Whitney, Marlboro',	Chief Mustering Officer.

AIDES-DE-CAMP.

Thomas Plunkett,	W. Boylston	Thomas G. Carver,	Brockton
A. St. John Chambre,	Franklin	William B. Sears,	Brookline
William L. Chafin,	N. Easton	Dudley E. Gale,	Amesbury
F. L. Harmon,	W. Warren	O. B. Wyman,	Shrewsbury
Win. H. Osborne,	E. Bridgewater	Charles Newhall,	Danvers
George L. Sanborn,	Holliston	Frank A. Smith,	N. Brookfield
W. C. Litchfield,	S. Scituate	Albert A. Holt,	Quincy
Charles S. Anthony,	Taunton	William M. Olin,	Roxbury
Leonard C. Lane,	Waltham	George M. Fiske,	Medfield
G. H. Smith,	Holyoke	H. B. Rowley,	Shelburne Falls

REPRESENTATIVES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Delegates.

Herbert E. Hill (at large)	.	.	Somerville.
M. B. Lakeman,	Malden	J. W. Sawyer,	Saugus
E. W. Thompson,	Lowell	Jos. O. Neil,	Fall River
Albert Wood,	Worcester	Geo. S. Evans,	Cambridge
W. A. Simmons,	Boston	S. B. Spooner,	Springfield

Alternates.

C. Frank Luther (at large)	.	.	N. Adams.
Arthur M. Holt,	Lawrence	C. F. Hodgkins,	Chelsea
Amos Bartlett,	Webster	B. M. Merchant,	Fitchburg
Sam'l C. Wright,	Plymouth	A. L. Barrett,	Orange
Francis Locke, Jr.,	Gloucester	C. W. Wilcox,	Milford

POSTS.

No.	Name of Post.	Commander.	Town.	Night of Meeting.
1	Wm. Logan,	Freeman C. Luce,	New Bedford,	Wednesday.
2				
3	W. A. Bartlett,	A. B. Hodges,	Taunton,	Tuesday.
4	U. S. Grant,	C. B. Baldwin,	Melrose,	1st and 3d Tues.
5	Gen. Lander,	A. J. Hoitt,	Lynn,	Thursday.
6	P. T. Wyman,	John Collins,	Holliston,	Tuesday.
7	Chas. Russell Lowell,	Thomas J. Tute,	Boston,	Friday.
8	E. W. Pierce,	Geo. H. Shaw, 2d,	Middleboro,	Saturday.
9	Renó,	A. S. Trowbridge,	Hudson,	Wednesday.
10	Geo. H. Ward,	J. K. Churchill,	Worcester,	Thursday.
11	Abraham Lincoln,	John W. Lee,	Charles-town,	1st and 3d Tues.
12	Warren,	George H. Teague,	Wakefield,	2d and 4th Mon.
13	Fletcher Webster,	W. W. Kidder,	Brockton,	Thursday.
14	C. C. Phillips,	E. A. Putnam,	Woodville,	Monday.
15	John A. Andrew,	Geo. J. Hinds,	Boston,	Friday.
16	E. K. Wilcox,	S. B. Spooner,	Springfield,	2d and 4th Wed.
17	Gen. Sedgwick,	A. L. Barrett,	Orange,	Alt. Fridays.
18	Col. Prescott,	G. W. Lord,	Ashland,	Wednesday.
19	Edwin V. Sumner,	Sidney Sibley,	Fitchburg,	Thursday.
20	H. S. Greenleaf,	Henry H. Prouty,	Colrain,	1st and 3d Fri.
21				
22	Maj. E. F. Fletcher,	Henry B. Thayer,	Milford.	Wednesday.
23	Joseph Hooker,	Isaac B. Noble,	East Boston,	Tuesday.
24	A. B. R. Sprague,	J. K. Axtell,	Grafton,	2d and last Mon.
25	H. H. Legge,	J. R. Johnson,	Uxbridge,	1st and 3d Tues.
26	Thos. G. Stevenson,	P. O'Meara Edson,	Roxbury,	Monday.
27	Charles Devens,	Geo. W. Warner,	Oxford,	Tuesday.
28	Geo. D. Wells,	E. B. Berry,	West Boylston,	1st and 3d Wed.
29	F. P. H. Rogers,	Leonard C. Lane.	Waltham,	2d and 4th Fri.
30	Wm. H. Smart,	R. F. Tobin,	Cambridgeport,	Thursday.
31	Geo. W. Perry,	W. H. Osborne,	No. Scituate,	1st and 3d Mon.
32	Washington,	Dennis Foley,	S. Boston,	1st and 3d Thurs.
33	Burbank,	Thos. H. Hill,	Woburn,	Thursday.
34	Phil H. Sheridan,	Chas. J. Saddler,	Salem,	Tue-day.
35	Theodore Winthrop,	Geo. H. Buck,	Chelsea,	Thur-day.
36	E. M. Stanton,	H. C. Comins,	Amherst,	1st Tuesday.
37	F. A. Stearns,	Jarvis H. Jones,	Spencer,	1st and 3d Thurs.
38	Dexter.	A. D. Ward,	Brookfield,	1st and 3d Tues.
39	Needham,	D. Johnston,	Lawrence,	Wednesday.
40	Gen. H. G. Berry,	Geo. W. McLaughlin,	Malden,	1st and 3d Thurs.
41	Lyon,	W. J. Mixer,	Westfield,	4th Tuesday.
42	B. F. Butler,	Albert Pinder,	Lowell,	Thursday.
43	John A. Rawlins,	William S. Frost,	Marlboro.	Tuesday.
44				
45	Colonel Allen,	Chas. H. Pew, 2d,	Gloucester,	Thursday.
46	Richard Borden,	Joseph O. Neil,	Fall River,	Thursday.
47	Maj. How,	D. Smith Kimball,	Haverhill,	Tuesday.
48	Geo. S. Boutwell,	William C. Woods,	Ayer,	1st Thursday.
49	A. W. Bartlett,	Lewis A. Horton,	Newburyport,	Friday.
50				
51	Ezra Batcheller,	Albert H. Foster,	N. Brookfield,	Thursday.
52	A. B. Randall,	William A. Linnehan,	S. Easton,	2d Monday.
53	Chas. H. Stevens,	J. A. Stratton,	Leominster,	2d and 4th Thurs.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Name of Post.</i>	<i>Commander.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>Night of Meeting.</i>
54	John B. Gough,	Geo. H. Andrews,	Berlin,	1st and 3d Tues.
55	I. D. Paull,	Ainsworth Cutler,	Taunton,	Monday.
56	Charles Beck,	Edmund A. Stone,	Cambridge,	Monday.
57	P. Stearns Davis,	Geo. H. Howard,	E. Cambridge,	Wednesday.
58	Reynolds,	Benj. S. Lovell,	Weymouth,	1st and 3d Tues.
59	Maj. J. A. Pratt,	Geo. F. Davidson,	Sterling,	1st Saturday.
60				
61	Nathaniel Lyon,	Michael Schofield, Jr.,	Webster,	2d and 4th Fri.
62	Charles Ward,	W. W. Caruth,	Newton,	1st and 3d Thurs.
63	Gen. Wadsworth,	Royal B. Wight,	Natick,	Tuesday.
64	E. D. Baker,	Jeremiah Stewart,	Clinton,	1st and 3d Fri.
65	Clara Barton,	Lyman A. Powers,	Warren,	1st and 3d Wed.
66	S. C. Lawrence,	James A. Hervey,	Medford,	2d and 4th Tues.
67	Allen,	Jeffry T. Stanley,	Manchester,	Friday.
68	Benj. Stone, Jr.,	Henry P. Oakman,	Boston,	1st and 3d Tues
		(Neponset)	(Dorchester)	
69	J. R. Rice,	Edward P. Miller,	Westminster,	Alt. Saturday.
70	Geo. A. Custer,	A. H. Batchelor,	Millbury,	Alt. Monday.
71	Kilpatrick,	E. P. Clark,	Holyoke,	Tuesday.
72	A. St. John Chambre,	Edwin M. Norton,	Stoughton,	1st and 3d Tues.
73	McPherson,	E. H. Atwood,	Abington,	Wednesday.
74	Hartsuff,	John H. Harper,	Rockland,	Monday.
75	J. P. Gould,	John P. Berry,	Stoneham,	Monday.
76	Collingwood,	Frank A. Johnson,	Plymouth,	Wednesday.
77	Theron E. Hall,	Hiram P. Newell,	Holden,	1st Saturday.
78	David A. Russell,	Jerome Washburn,	S. Abington,	Tue-day.
79	Chas. D. Sanford,	C. Frank Luther,	N. Adams,	Friday.
80	Joseph Miller,	Dexter Burnett,	S. Hadley,	1st Saturday.
81	Isaac B. Patten,	J. F. Lovering,	Watertown,	1st and 3d Fri.
82	John Goodwin, Jr.,	Joseph Gregory,	Marblehead,	Thursday.
83	J. E. Wilder,	R. C. Waterman,	Hanover,	Last Tuesday.
84	M. E. Stowell,	Chas. S. Babcock,	Deerfield,	Friday.
85	J. W. Lawton,	Aram Warburton,	Ware,	2d and 4th Thur.
86	Henry Wilson,	A. D. Holt,	Maynard,	1st Thursday.
87	Gen. S. Thayer,	William L. Gage,	Braintree,	Friday.
88	Paul Reveré,	S. B. Turner,	Quincy,	Tuesday.
89	J. H. Chapman, Jr.,	Henry P. Woodbury,	Beverly,	Thursday.
90	Ward,	Joseph Blake,	Danvers,	Monday.
91	E. P. Carpenter,	H. P. Fisher,	Foxboro,	2d and 4th Fri.
92	Francis Washburn,	M. Coyle, Jr.,	Brighton,	1st and 3d Mon.
93	Ozro Miller,	Geo. R. Peirce,	Shelburne Falls,	Tuesday.
94	Revere,	A. A. Harrington,	Canton,	2d and last Thur.
95	Gen. E. W. Hinks,	J. W. Sawyer,	Saugus,	2d and 4th Mon.
96	Joe Johnson,	F. M. Harrington,	Northboro,	1st Monday.
97	E. J. Griggs,	Myron Barton,	Belchertown,	1st Monday.
98	J. D. Mirick,	E. E. Sawyer,	Princeton,	1st Saturday.
99	Calvin Cutter,	E. Rycroft,	West Warren,	2d and 4th Mon.
100		John F. Ridly,	Methuen,	Tuesday.
101	Charles Sumner,	L. H. Hopkinson,	Groveland,	Thursday.
102				
103				
104	E. Humphrey,	E. T. Bouvé,	Hingham,	1st Thursday.
105				
106				
107				
108	Everett Peabody,	H. N. Harriman,	Georgetown,	2d and last Tues.
109	Eriesson,	Joel Whitney,	E. Templeton,	Last Friday.
110	Capt. Horace Niles,	Galen Hollis,	Randolph,	1st Friday.
111	J. E. Simmons,	Miles Sampson,	Pembroke,	1 and 3d Sat.
112	D. Williard Robinson,	O. B. Prouty,	S. Scituate,	2d and last Mon.
113	E. W. Kinsley,	Nathan Appleton,	Boston,	2d Wednesday.
114	Col. C. R. Mudge,	A. Judson Sawyer,	Merrimac,	1st and 3d Fri.
115	E. S. Clark,	M. P. Palmer,	Groton,	1st Saturday.
116	D. G. Farragut,	O. F. Smith,	Gardner,	Wednesday.
117	Moses Ellis,	William F. Guild,	Medfield,	2d Monday.
118	James L. Bates,	M. E. Porter,	Swampscott,	Monday.
119	Geo. C. Meade,	L. G. Babcock,	Lexington.	
120				
121	H. A. Darling,	R. F. Boynton,	Hyde Park,	3d Monday.
122	E. P. Wallace,	J. O. Currier,	Amesbury,	Monday.
123	Parker,	Henry T. Morse,	Athol,	Thursday.
124	Justin Dimick,	Chas. P. Lyon,	E. Bridgewater,	1st and last Thur.
125	N. B. Shurtleff, Jr.,	William H. Symes,	S. Boston,	Tuesday.
126	George E. Sayles,	I. E. Courtney,	S. Adams,	Thursday.
127	T. L. Bonney,	John Berker,	Hanson,	1st Monday.
128				

No.	Name of Post.	Commander.	Town.	Night of Meeting.
129	Swift,	Wm. H. Tallman,	Somerset,	1st Wednesday.
130				
131	Geo. H. Thomas,	Henry L. Watton,	Leicester,	2d and 4th Tues.
132	G. M. Dodge,	W. R. Armstrong,	Peabody,	Monday.
133				
134	Robt. A. Bell,	Thomas Hammond,	Boston,	Thursday.
135	E. A. Andrews,	Fred Bartlett,	Shrewsbury,	Last Wednesday.
136	Geo. C. Marshall,	C. H. Wesson,	Rutland,	1st Saturday.
137				
138				
139	W. C. Kinsley,	Geo. B. Clarke,	Somerville,	1st, 2d, 3d Wed.
140				
141				
142	D. B. Eames,	Geo. H. Patch,	S. Framingham,	Saturday.
143	C. L. Chandler,	Thos. H. Talbot,	Brookline,	Alt. Wednesdays
144	Chas. W. Carroll,	David L. Hodges,	Dedham,	2d and 4th Fri.
145	Wm. A. Streeter,	Wm. J. Thompson,	Attleboro,	2d and 4th Mon.
146	R. G. Shaw,	Geo. T. Fisher,	New Bedford,	Last Thursday.
147				
148	A. D. Weld,	S. C. Small,	Winchester,	1st and 3d Tues.
149	Maj. G. L. Stearns,	Ora Holman,	Charlestown,	Wednesday.
150				
151	Major Boyd,	Orrin Warren,	West Newbury,	2d and 4th Sat.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, May 4, 1878. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 3. }

In accordance with Rules and Regulations and General Orders No. 10, from National Headquarters, the Posts of this Department of the Grand Army of the Republic, under their respective Commanders, will celebrate Thursday, May 30, 1878, as the annual Memorial Day.

Not a grave should be neglected. But extravagant expenditure is illtimed. National legislation has ruined hundreds of thousands. A too lavish expenditure of money, even upon the heroes to whom the mother earth of Massachusetts has given a soldiers' home that does not tax her treasury and is never full, would painfully contrast with our prayer that she shall make some honorable and justly generous provision for two hundred war-worn men, disfranchised in the poor-houses of the State.

New graves await our tribute; new and splendid monuments to the dead attest the patriotism of towns and cities and their pride in all you have done. Memory is more immortal than marble and bronze. You will not forget your companions in suffering and glory. Never forget. Let the drum and bugle, as they thrill us with the old joy, solemnly recall the grand brotherhood of the past. In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, open your ranks to the brave. The tattered banner, which the State cherishes as a trophy, is sublimed by the spirit that bore it. The standard bearer, in rags, ought never to seem a burden to a saved Commonwealth.

Comrades: You have been true to the State and the Nation. You are tender and true to the living and dead. Be proudly true and just to yourselves as men who have a right to remind the politicians of Massachusetts, in whose borders you wish to live and die, that you gave to her all that man could give in the strength of your manhood and the day of her fear, when John Albion Andrew folded the now ragged regiments to his heart, and the people, in tears, thanked God that no other State could claim you as sons.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, June 28, 1878. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 4. }

I. The failure of the late Legislature to appropriate money for a soldiers' home in Massachusetts compels the Grand Army to make a more determined effort than ever to establish such an institution. Posts should at once form canvassing committees of patriotic men and women in every city and town to collect subscriptions.

The Board of Trustees of a Soldiers' Home is now fully organized with the following officers:—

Horace Binney Sargent,	President.
James F. Meech,	Secretary.
Hon. William Gaston,	Treasurer.

II. In order to facilitate the consolidation of Adjutants' and Quarter-masters' reports, and to enable the Assistant Adjutant-General to prepare and forward his report before the "twentieth day after the beginning of each quarter," all Post reports must be at these Headquarters on or before the 15th day after the beginning of each quarter.

III. The Department of Pennsylvania, G.A.R., has arranged for a week's encampment on the battlefield of Gettysburg, beginning Saturday, July 20. All comrades of this Department are most cordially invited.

IV. Post 100 of Methuen having adopted the name of Col. William B. Greene, the same is hereby approved.

V. A charter has been granted for a new Post in Southboro, to be known as George Wesley Nichols Post No. 44; A. B. Jones, Commander.

* * * * *

By order of
 HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Aug. 1, 1878. }

CIRCULAR }
 No. 1. }

Comrades: The last Legislature of Massachusetts, instead of granting our prayer for aid to establish a soldiers' home in this State, passed a bill, a copy of which is herewith annexed:—

[CHAP. 282.]

An Act to provide additional pay to poor and indigent soldiers and sailors. Be it enacted, etc., as follows:—

SECTION 1. Every city and town in which any soldiers or sailors reside who have served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this Commonwealth, and been honorably discharged therefrom, and are not entitled to admission to any National Soldiers' Home, and who are poor and indigent and stand in need of relief, shall raise money by taxation or otherwise; and as further compensation for such service shall, under the direction of its mayor and aldermen or selectmen, pay to such soldiers or sailors, or if deemed best expend therefor, such necessary sum of money as will furnish them reasonable relief or support; and no such soldier or sailor shall be required to receive such relief or support in any almshouse or in any public institution unless he chooses to do so, or his physical or mental condition requires it; and all sums of

money so paid out or expended shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth to such city or town in the manner State aid is now reimbursed. And any such soldier or sailor requiring full support may select the place where he will be supported: *provided*, the cost of such support at the place selected shall not exceed the fair average cost of reasonable support for persons of like degree in life, in such city or town; and any city or town violating any of the provisions of this act shall be liable in an action of contract to any persons furnishing such relief or support, after written notice to such mayor or selectmen that the same is to be furnished.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of the Surgeon-General of the Commonwealth to inquire as to the number of indigent soldiers or sailors now receiving public aid throughout the Commonwealth, and include in his next annual report such facts as he may gather in regard to the condition and necessities of such persons.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [Approved May 17, 1878.]

This bill leaves much uncertain. It is not easy, without submitting an application to the Surgeon-General, William J. Dale, to decide whether an applicant for aid is "not entitled to admission to any National Soldiers' Home"; nor is there any evident test of the "physical or mental condition" referred to in the bill; nor is it clear what sum is suited to any particular "degree in life."

As in service it became our duty to make inefficient orders efficient by double effort on our own part, we must now try to make this avail. Watch the poorhouses. Besiege the town and city governments. Having carefully convinced yourselves of the validity of claims in each case, and having notified the proper officials in legal form, compel respect for the law. It may be necessary to advance the requisite sum from your relief fund and recover by an action of contract under this statute. The suffering men who were hired in gold, paid in depreciated paper, and never attempted to corner Uncle Sam by even re-establishing the original contract for coin or gold, demand your legal assistance. That a Union soldier who gave suffrage to slaves should be a disfranchised pauper in the workhouse is a disgrace, and will yet come home as an avenging curse to Massachusetts. The statute for the relief of indigent soldiers must be enforced, cost what it may. Your instant and constant attention is demanded to relieve disabled soldiers who cannot work from a position where they are subject to threats of punishment by workhouse officials.

If Posts are not convened during the summer vacation, their commanders should at once take proper steps to make the bill referred to as effective as possible.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, Aug. 2, 1878. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 5. }

I. Commanders of Posts are earnestly reminded that reports must be promptly transmitted. A great improvement in punctuality is observed; but a few delinquents yet mar the standing of the Department. Comrades, your sense of honor is depended on to enable the Assistant Adjutant-General to comply with the peremptory orders of the Com-

mander-in-Chief. It is a matter of official and personal regret to publish the following Posts and Commanders as delinquents in the reports due July 1:—

Post 41,	Westfield,	W. J. Mixer,	Commander.
" 82,	Marblehead,	Joseph Gregory,	"
" 87,	Braintree,	William L. Gage,	"
" 134,	Boston,	Thomas Hammond,	"
" 143,	Brookline,	Thomas H. Talbot,	"
" 146,	New Bedford,	George T. Fisher,	"

II. General Orders No. 2, from National Headquarters, is hereby transmitted, together with a slip containing errata in page 522 of Proceedings of National Encampment for 1878. Attention is also called to Circular No. 1, inclosed.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, Sept. 30, 1878. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 6. }

The following Department officers have been detailed to inspect the Posts whose numbers appear against their names. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

Senior Vice Department Commander, John G. B. Adams: 12, 34, 49, 57, 58, 68, 75, 82, 87, 88, 95, 134.

Junior Vice Department Commander, John A. Hawes: 3, 8, 13, 46, 52, 55, 72, 73, 74, 76, 78, 83, 111, 112, 124, 127, 145, 146.

Assistant Adjutant-General, James F. Meech: 16, 17, 20, 36, 41, 69, 71, 77, 79, 80, 84, 85, 93, 97, 98, 109, 116, 121, 123, 126, 136.

Department Inspector, Samuel Dalton: 1, 5, 7, 15, 19, 23, 26, 94, 113, 132.

Chief Mustering Officer, E. C. Whitney: 9, 142.

Council of Administration, George H. Patch: 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 37, 38, 43, 44, 48, 51, 53, 54, 59, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 70, 81, 86, 91, 92, 99, 115, 117, 131, 135.

Council of Administration, George W. Creasey: 32, 39, 47, 100, 101, 108, 114, 122, 125, 151.

Council of Administration, J. Frank Dalton: 31, 35, 40, 42, 45, 67, 89, 90, 104, 118.

Council of Administration, George H. Howard: 4, 11, 29, 30, 33, 56, 66, 110, 119, 138, 143, 144, 148, 149.

As this system of inspection will bring a great amount of work to the officers, it is hoped that the benefit to Posts will be of equal importance.

It may be necessary in some instances to call special meetings of Posts: therefore commanders of Posts will govern themselves accordingly.

The traveling expenses of the officers will be borne by the Department; but all local expenses will be paid by the Post visited. At each inspection the complete ceremony will be shown, including muster-in; and all books and papers of the Post, including records of the Relief Committee or Trustees, must be presented for inspection. A statement of amount expended for relief, for the year ending September 30, will be required.

Inspectors will insist upon a strict compliance with Section 1, Article VII., Chapter V., General Rules, Rules and Regulations.

All Posts that have contributed to the relief of the Post at New Orleans, and have not reported to these Headquarters the amount, will do so at once, in compliance with Circular No. 1, from National Headquarters.

* * * * *

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, OCT. 15, 1878. }

CIRCULAR }
No. 2. }

Comrades: The Legislature of Massachusetts, in 1877, referred to the next General Court the petition of more than 20,000 soldiers and voters in aid of the prayer of this Department of the Grand Army of the Republic for an appropriation of \$100,000 to establish a soldiers' home in this State. Instead of making the appropriation, the Committee reported and the Legislature passed the following bill for the relief of poor and indigent soldiers and sailors:—

[CHAP. 282.]

An Act to provide additional pay to poor and indigent soldiers and sailors. Be it enacted, etc., as follows:—

SECTION 1. Every city and town in which any soldiers or sailors reside who have served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this Commonwealth, and been honorably discharged therefrom, and are not entitled to admission to any national soldiers' home, and who are poor and indigent and stand in need of relief, shall raise money by taxation or otherwise; and as further compensation for such service, shall, under the direction of its mayor and aldermen or selectmen, pay to such soldiers or sailors, or if deemed best expend therefor, such necessary sum of money as will furnish them reasonable relief or support; and no such soldier or sailor shall be required to receive such relief or support in any almshouse or in any public institution unless he chooses to do so, or his physical or mental condition requires it; and all sums of money so paid out or expended shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth to such city or town in the manner state aid is now reimbursed. And any such soldier or sailor requiring full support may select the place where he will be supported; *provided*, the cost of such support at the place selected shall not exceed the fair average cost of reasonable support for persons of like degree in life in such city or town; and any city or town violating any of the provisions of this act shall be liable in an action of contract to any persons furnishing such relief or support, after written notice to such mayor or selectmen that the same is to be furnished.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of the Surgeon-General of the Commonwealth to inquire as to the number of indigent soldiers or sailors now receiving public aid throughout the Commonwealth, and include in his next annual report such facts as he may gather in regard to the condition and necessities of such persons.

SECT. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its passage. [Approved May 17, 1878.]

This bill was, of course, intended to be enforced and immediately operative, to give "full support" where necessary at the place selected by the beneficiary, "provided the cost of such support at the place selected shall not exceed the fair average cost of reasonable support for persons in like degree of life in such city or town." No pauper dole, at starvation prices, is implied or expressed by the bill.

So far as I know this bill was not passed at the solicitation or suggestion of any officer of this Department. In practice, the working of this law is unsatisfactory to the applicants for relief, and entails considerable burdens on the Commonwealth which a soldiers' home would have spared. The beneficiaries under this law are painfully reminded that they are paupers, and the agents of the law are deficient in that knowledge of applicants which the system of the Grand Army furnishes to the Department. By the ruling of the Auditor, Hon. Julius L. Clarke, the most necessitous and meritorious recipient of the smallest pension is excluded from the benefits of the law, on the ground that a pensioner *is entitled* to admission to the national homes. The hardship of this ruling is evident, when we reflect that the war left thirty-five times as many men, whose wounds might entitle them to pensions, as the national homes can now accommodate; and that the opinion of a supervising board as to the eligibility of an applicant for admission must be obtained. It is not certain in any case, at first sight, whether an applicant for relief under the statute above quoted can enter a national home, and he may die of starvation while his application is pending. Moreover, a man with a family, if he is entitled to admission to a national home, can receive no relief under this statute.

Some of the towns and cities are disposed to complain of the burden that the statute imposes, and dole out a stingy relief with an unwilling hand. Some of the Posts are timid in demanding an enforcement of the rights of their indigent comrades under the law. This is all wrong; and Posts are earnestly conjured to assist their indigent members in asserting their rights. If towns and cities are disposed to carry out the law, it must be carried out under the provisions of the last part of the first paragraph. It is believed that a fair representation of the officers of any Post that any soldier or sailor requires a full weekly support will be cordially met by the town or city authorities. It is not their money that we ask, but a part of the sum levied by taxation under the authority that has provided this form of relief instead of that which 20,000 soldiers and voters desired. As the great charitable soldier organization of the State, it is our duty to supply the necessary aid from our relief funds and ask reimbursement under the law. Instead of begging money at fairs, we are entitled, as every charitable individual is entitled, to furnish the necessary supplies to any soldier or sailor whose case comes within this statute, and after due notice to receive reimbursement for the outlay. Properly managed, the G. A. R. Posts may be of infinite assistance to the town and city authorities by discriminating between those worthy objects that require a more liberal allowance than is now dispensed, and those less deserving, whose unjust demands diminish a provision intended as the payment of a just debt of patriotism.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Nov. 18, 1878. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 7. }

I. Comrade Samuel B. Spooner of Post 16, of Springfield, is hereby appointed Chief Mustering Officer, vice Edmund C. Whitney, resigned.

Comrade Spooner will be obeyed and respected accordingly. The thanks of the Commander are cordially expressed to Comrade Whitney for his past service.

Posts 9 and 142, which were to be inspected by Comrade Whitney, as announced in General Orders No. 6, will be inspected by the Assistant Adjutant-General.

II. The attention of commanders and surgeons of Posts is called to Circular No. 1, from the Surgeon-General's office, dated Oct. 26, 1878, which is hereby forwarded to Posts. Blanks of Form F, on which the annual report is to be made, are herewith inclosed. This report must accompany the Adjutant's and Quartermaster's reports for fourth quarter, 1878. Only those wounded comrades are to be reported who were omitted last year and those who have been admitted this year. A copy of this report must be retained in the Medical Descriptive Book of the Post. In case a Post has no wounded comrades to report, the blank, F, will be returned to these Headquarters so endorsed.

III. Posts must bear in mind that the first meeting in December is the time appointed for the election of Post officers and representatives to the Department Encampment. A blank is herewith inclosed on which Posts are to make the return of election of Post commander and delegates and alternates. Be sure to give name and post-office address of new Post commander on this blank. The number of delegates to which each Post is entitled shall be determined by the number of comrades reported in good standing on reports for quarter ending September 30. (See amendments to Rules and Regulations adopted June 4, 1878. Copy inclosed.) The basis of representation remains as heretofore.

IV. The order announcing mustering officers will be issued early in December, and the chief will be governed by the wishes of Posts in their selection, when practicable. Recommendations must be forwarded on or before December 20.

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Dec. 27, 1878. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 8. }

I. The following-named comrades are hereby detailed as mustering officers, and will install the officers of the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

George E. Dean, Taunton, 3; George W. Creasey, Newburyport, 5, 114; John Scates, South Boston, 7; Theodore L. Kelly, Boston, 15; Charles H. Foss, Fitchburg, 19; Henry B. Hibben, Scituate, 31; Charles F. Hodgkins, Chelsea, 35; C. H. Richardson, Lowell, 42; H. C. Sherwin, Ayer, 48; G. W. Rockwood, Sterling, 59; H. H. Hitchcock, West Warren, 65; A. M. Parker, Worcester, 70; M. J. Ferren, Stoneham, 75; A. C. Brigham, South Abington, 78; J. G. B. Adams, Lynn, 88; C. B. Baldwin, Melrose, 95; Robert H. Shields, Haverhill, 100; W. C. Litchfield, S. Scituate, 112; Dudley E. Gale, Amesbury, 122; J. W. Sawyer, Saugus, 4; John A. Hawes, Fairhaven, 8, 13; John L. Knight, Springfield, 16;

Henry B. Peirce, Abington, 30; Charles H. Chase, Salem, 34; J. A. Josselyn, Brookfield, 38; E. C. Whitney, Marlboro, 43; Geo. S. Evans, Cambridge, 56, 57, 142; A. G. Forbush, Ashland, 63; Lysander Wood, Stoughton, 72; Charles H. Leonard, Plymouth, 76; Charles Stowell, S. Deerfield, 84; J. Frank Dalton, Salem, 90, 132; Lyman A. Powers, Warren, 99; M. V. Bonney, Hanover, 111; Charles Grey, Athol, 123; W. W. Woodbury, Somerville, 139; William S. Brown, Boston, 125; J. T. Wilson, Winchester, 148.

II. Post Commanders will at once put themselves in communication with their mustering officers, giving time and place of installation. In case of the absence of the comrade designated above for any Post, and where no comrade has been assigned, any past Post commander in good standing (except the retiring commander) may act. In no case will the officers of any Post be installed until all reports and dues have been forwarded. (See page 7 of the Service Book.)

By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

SAMUEL B. SPOONER,

Chief Mustering Officer,

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, Dec. 27, 1878. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

I. The Annual Encampment of this Department will be convened in Amory Hall (corner Washington and West Streets), Boston, on Wednesday, Jan. 29, 1879, at 7 o'clock P.M., for the election of Department officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before it. Posts are entitled to the following ratio of representation: One delegate for every fifty members reported in good standing September 30, with one additional for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to at least one delegate. Post commanders are members of the Encampment by virtue of their office.

II. The Commander of Post 7 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and at least six Sentinels for duty during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General at 6.30 P.M., on the 29th, at the Hall, for instructions.

III. The adjutant's, quartermaster's, and surgeon's reports, together with all dues and a list of delegates and alternates to Department Encampment, should be forwarded to these Headquarters on or before Jan. 10, 1879. The Rules require the exclusion from the Encampment of any Post failing to make complete returns, especially surgeon's report on Form F. Every Post has received one of the surgeon's blanks, which is to be filled out in accordance with Circular No. 1, dated Oct. 26, 1878, from the Surgeon-General's office. The blank for reporting delegates and alternates, that has been furnished to Posts, must give name and post-office address of new Post commander; but this blank, as well as the adjutant's and quartermaster's reports for the fourth quarter, must be signed by the officers of 1878.

IV. Section 1, Article II., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, provides that Post commanders shall forward at the close of each quarter, with the quarterly returns, "the names of any members of his Post

in good standing who have held the position of Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, of the National Encampment, or of Department Commander, and a list of the names of rejected applicants" for the quarter.

* * * * *

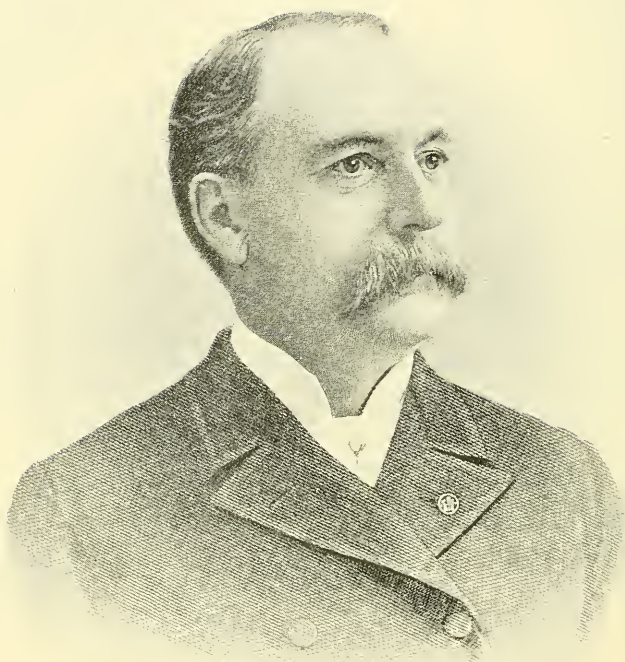
By order of

HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,

Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General



JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1879.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ENCAMPMENT AT LYNN,

1880.

JANUARY 28.—EVENING SESSION.

THE Encampment assembled in Odd Fellows Hall, and was called to order by Commander John G. B. Adams.

The Officer of the Day reported with the Officer of the Guard and eight comrades, for guard duty.

The front hall was cleared and the guard posted; and upon the roll being called by the Assistant Adjutant-General, the following Department officers, and past Department commanders, together with 237 delegates, responded to their names:—

Commander,	John G. B. Adams.
Senior Vice-Commander,	John A. Hawes.
Chaplain,	John W. Lee.
	{ George H. Patch,
	{ J. Frank Dalton,
Council of Administration :	{ George H. Howard,
	{ Azel Ames, Jr.,
	{ John F. Bruce.
Assistant Adjutant-General,	James F. Meech.
Assistant Quartermaster-General,	E. T. Raymond.
Inspector,	George W. Creasey.
Judge Advocate,	Giles H. Rich.
Chief Mustering Officer,	Charles W. Wilcox.
Past Department Commanders :	{ William Cogswell,
	{ George S. Merrill.

After prayer by Department Chaplain John W. Lee, the Department Commander announced that if there was no objection the guard would admit to the gallery all comrades who gave the National countersign. There being no objection, the guard was so ordered.

On motion, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the records of last Encampment.

The next business being the reports of Department officers, preceded by the

ADDRESS OF COMMANDER JOHN G. B. ADAMS.

Comrades :

We meet today in goodly numbers in the Thirteenth Annual Convention of this Department, to review the work of the past year, and deliberate and take council together upon matters of interest to our Order that demand attention. When I assumed command of the Department, Feb. 1, 1879, we numbered seven thousand six hundred (7,600) comrades. I felt that the gradual loss of members that had continued since 1874 must stop—that we must turn our faces once more to the front and *move forward*. In General Order No. 1 I called the attention of the Department to the necessity of recruiting, and by hard earnest work, not only of Department officers, but of Post commanders and individual comrades, we have succeeded, and for the first time in five years report a gain of five hundred and sixty-seven comrades.

We shall not rest here. In a State that sent more than one hundred and fifty-nine thousand (159,000) soldiers and sailors to the war, within whose borders not less than sixty thousand honorably discharged soldiers and sailors now reside, the Grand Army of the Republic should not number less than twenty thousand comrades. And we can reach that number if we work together to accomplish it. If it is good and profitable for you and me, my comrades, to work in this cause, it is good for every man that wore the "Union Blue" to be enrolled under our banner; and I urge you to continuously labor to again place Massachusetts in the proud position she once held—the largest Department in the Union.

Accompanied by Department officers and members of my personal staff, I have attended thirty-seven camp-fires, officially opened six fairs, and reviewed the Posts of Plymouth and Essex Counties. August 29, visited the camp of Plymouth County Posts at Brant Rock, remaining in camp over night. The camp was laid out in military order, and the discipline and appearance of the Posts were excellent. I have observed more than ever before that "Fraternity, without regard to former rank, was the broad foundation stone upon which our Order rests," as the former privates and non-commissioned officers put on airs at Headquarters, while colonels, majors, etc., brought wood and water for the cooks. The encampment was held three days, and was successful in every respect. In this connection I would respectfully call the attention of the Convention to the subject of a State Encampment the coming year.

It is a matter that has been considered by Department officers, and I think they are unanimous in recommending it. In no way could we so well revive the scenes and incidents of army life; and as it has been successfully carried on in other Departments, I think we should not hesitate to try it in this. If this suggestion meets with your favorable consideration, steps should immediately be taken; and we must depend upon the State for camp equipage, and our petition should be presented at once. Believing that such an encampment would result in great good to our Order, I leave the matter for the consideration of the Convention.

September 25, I reviewed the Posts of Essex County at Danvers. Nearly seven hundred comrades were in line, and their excellent marching and soldierly bearing proved that they had not forgotten the lessons learned in army life. I can only repeat what has been said by other commanders, "Essex County always does well."

The receipts of fairs and other entertainments held by the several Posts to replenish their charity funds have been larger than ever before. And the public have shown by the generous support they have given us, that they are in full sympathy with our objects. City and town officials have, in many cases, rendered valuable assistance to Posts, while His Excellency Governor Talbot honored our Order by accepting many invitations to our gatherings, and cheered the hearts of comrades by his presence and many kind words of sympathy and encouragement spoken. Comrades, let us ever conduct ourselves, as an organization, so that in the future, as in the past, we shall merit and receive the support of all good citizens of our loved Commonwealth.

Decoration Day was observed with more than usual interest the past year, many towns observing it for the first time. This, my comrades, to us is a sacred day; and it is our duty, by all honorable means, to see that it is sacredly observed. Last year, for the first time, many of the retail stores in Boston and other cities remained open, thereby depriving comrades in their employ of uniting with their Posts. In my opinion, the observance of this day does much to keep the spirit of loyalty alive in the hearts of the people. It recalls to their minds the sufferings, sacrifices and devotion of our own dead comrades — calls their attention to their widows and orphans, and the maimed and helpless living, who, when our land was in danger, did not count the cost, but gave up the ties of home and friends, and by their valor saved the nation's life. When the dark cloud of war was hanging over our country in 1861, Governor Andrew, believing that the observance of the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans would arouse the people to deeds of patriotism, caused salutes to be fired in Boston and sixteen other cities and towns in the State. So we, to keep alive this spirit of loyalty, which is one of the cardinal principles

of our Order, should see that Decoration Day is properly observed. And in order that our comrades may not be again deprived of participating in its ceremonies, I would recommend that we petition the Legislature that the 30th of May be set apart as a "Memorial Day" in this Commonwealth.

The National Encampment was attended by a full delegation from this Department with the exception of the Junior Vice-Commander. The delegates acted together upon all important questions, meeting before the Convention and at the intermissions, settling all differences of opinion, so that all questions were thoroughly understood when voted upon. I trust the same care will be used this year in the selection of delegates. Select those who can attend and will guard with care the interests of the Department. While the report of the Adjutant-General ranks this Department *third* in point of numbers, it also shows that we expend more for charity than all the other Departments combined.

The past year has been no exception to previous years in regard to the annual cry, "The Grand Army is a political organization." Some irresponsible reporter will say that our Order is "solid" for this or that candidate; and immediately members of the Order rush into print: some to deny the statement, others to report that they have canvassed their respective Posts, and give figures as to how they stand.

I hope no comrade will ever again undertake to defend our Order in this respect. If the fact that we have raised and expended nearly *four hundred thousand dollars* the past thirteen years for charity does not prove to the public that we have enough to do without meddling with party politics, no newspaper correspondence will convince them; and in my opinion silence in regard to this matter is the better course. Let our works speak for us. I believe no comrade would use the Order for partisan purposes if he could; and, from an intimate acquaintance with the comrades, am *very sure* he could not if he would.

While we take no part in politics as an organization, let us as individuals "Remember always that by eternal vigilance alone can national liberty be maintained," and as American citizens cast our ballots so that we would not hesitate, if called upon, to "back them up" with our bayonets.

I feel that I should be remiss in duty did I not call the attention of comrades to the assistance we are receiving from the ladies' societies connected with the Posts. While many Posts have had auxiliary corps connected with them for years, it was thought by some that a better work could be accomplished if these were brought together as a state organization. And last year the "Ladies' State Relief Corps" was organized. I think the result has been all that could be desired. Several new corps have been

organized and, as far as I can learn, are rendering valuable assistance to Posts; and I urge comrades to give our lady friends the encouragement in their patriotic work they so richly deserve.

The Posts have been inspected by Department officers the same as last year, and a marked improvement has been observed. The revival of business has made it impossible for some of the officers to inspect but very few Posts, and much of the work has fallen upon the Assistant Adjutant-General. This has given him double duty, as the work at Headquarters has accumulated in his absence, and often the late hours of night have found him at his desk. *He* has never complained, and has performed every duty cheerfully and well; but I trust if this work is to be performed in future by the Department officers, some relief will be found for the Assistant Adjutant-General, either in the field or at Headquarters. For a detailed report of the inspections, I refer you to the report of the Department Inspector.

December last, accompanied by Senior Vice-Commander Hawes, Assistant Adjutant-General Meech, Comrade Bruce of the Council, past Department Commander Merrill, and members of my Staff, I visited the western portion of the State. I believe in this section is a large field for missionary work. Northampton, Greenfield, and other large towns have no Posts of our Order; while in cities and towns where Posts are located, there is not the membership that there should be. I trust in the future we shall see a revival, and that the western counties will rival the eastern in numbers and influence. Already the good work has begun, and the reports from Posts visited show a gain.

We have many Posts in this Department located in small towns where recruits are hard to obtain; the distance many of the members are obliged to travel to Post meeting causes their meetings to be thinly attended. We do not expect Posts so located will do as well as the larger Posts, yet I feel that it is desirable that they should retain their charters; and while cities and large towns represent the main army, we can feel that all through our State these picket Posts are scattered, and that camp-fires of loyalty are burning on their altars.

Since 1874 there have been no Proceedings of the Annual Encampment or reports of Department officers published, because the financial condition of the Department has been such as not to admit of it. And yet I feel that this is economy in the wrong direction and believe that Posts would subscribe for a sufficient number of copies to pay for printing.

The Department Inspector carefully prepares a lengthy report. It gives the standing of each Post, the amount expended for charity, the number in good standing, etc. When it is brought before the Convention its *length* causes a laugh. A motion is made that "the reading of the report be dispensed with," the motion

is carried, and the work of the Inspector is lost to the Department. So with the Adjutant-General and other Department officers.

I also believe that the history of the Department should be written each year, and that the Chaplain should be the historian. Each Post should report to him in what manner Decoration Day was observed, the amount appropriated by cities and towns, copies of addresses made, number of graves decorated — in fact all matters connected with the day and of interest to the Department. This information could be easily obtained, as local papers usually publish the proceedings in full, and the Chaplain could arrange them in proper form.

While such reports might not be of interest to us who participate in these scenes, the history of the Grand Army of the Republic will be of great interest to those who come after us, and will some day be written. And let us prepare the material while we have the opportunity.

In regard to the Soldiers' Home I have little to report, as that matter is in the hands of a Board of Trustees, of which Past Department Commander Sargent is President, Comrade Meech, Secretary, Hon. William Gaston, Treasurer. Several meetings have been held and sites visited. As business improves we hope to see the interest revived and the final result be all that could be desired.

This year closes the eighth year of my connection with Headquarters as a Department officer. Beginning the first year of the organization as a member of the Council of Administration, I have served in various positions up to the present time. I shall return to the ranks with a more earnest interest in the welfare of our Order than ever before. I shall not retire from active service, but be in reserve; and whenever I find the main line pressed shall be ready to take the field. The friendships formed in the Grand Army are second only to the ties of kindred. The kindness and fraternal feeling that have been extended to me at all times will be gratefully remembered, and the love I bear this organization will be continued while life shall last.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of my Staff and the Council of Administration, who have done so much to make my administration a success. In following in the footsteps of that gallant soldier and eloquent comrade, Horace Binney Sargent, I had many misgivings as to the result; and to past Department commanders and to the rank and file, the "boys" of the Grand Army, who have stood by me from first to last, I extend my thanks, and bespeak for my successor in office the same cordial support you have given me. Let us march on side by side and shoulder to shoulder to advance the interests of our noble organization, never deserting our colors, but remaining true to the end.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Commander and Comrades of the Department :

In accordance with the requirements of Rules and Regulations, I have the honor to submit herewith my fourth report of doings at headquarters : —

Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1878	131
Number of comrades reported in good standing, Dec. 31, 1878	7,609
Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1879	133
Number of comrades in good standing for fourth quarter, 1879, as far as reported	8,131

In April last the charter of Post 132 of Peabody was surrendered, and a new Post, numbered 50, was organized with 166 charter members: 142 of this number were mustered in at the initial meeting. This is believed to be the largest number that has ever been mustered into any Post of our organization; certainly such is the fact in this Department.

In April, also, a charter was granted for a new Post in the town of Milton. The Post was numbered 102, and was organized with 19 members, and has increased in strength and usefulness.

In October an application was granted for the reorganization of Post 103 at Chicopee; and on the 27th of that month the reconstruction of Otis Chapman Post 103 was completed under the most favorable auspices with 46 members.

The following changes have taken place in the membership of the Department during the year just closed : —

Number of comrades gained by muster-in	943
“ “ “ transfer	78
“ “ “ reinstatement	1,356
Total	<u>2,377</u>

Number of comrades lost by death	95
“ “ “ honorable discharge	66
“ “ “ transfer	121
“ “ “ suspension	1,387
“ “ “ dishonorable discharge	1

Total losses	<u>1,670</u>
Excess of gains over losses	707
Number of rejections during the year	21

Number of comrades entitled to seats in this Encampment, 327. This is based on 128 Posts, that number having made complete returns for fourth quarter 1879.

There are a number of Posts in arrears for reports, namely: Two for 4th quarter, 1878; three for 1st quarter, 1879; three for 2d quarter, 1879; four for 3d quarter, 1879; five for 4th quarter, 1879.

Generally the reports of Posts have been promptly and correctly made during the year.

I have not thought it necessary to refer at length to matters pertaining to the general working and welfare of the organization, from the fact that they either have been touched upon by the Commander or will be submitted to you by the other officers of the Department. I desire, however, to again express my previous and often repeated opinion that the present construction of Rules and Regulations relating to the suspension and dropping of members is detrimental to the best interests of the organization, and some modifications should be secured at the next National Encampment.

Before closing this report I shall beg your indulgence for a moment and call your attention to a matter that is not entirely unofficial — and neither is it, in my opinion, out of place; but rather the result of observation and statistics as to affairs at Headquarters. At the beginning of February, one year ago, I commenced, and keep, a daily record of visitors; and for about nine months of the year just closing it was continued. I find there has been a total of over 2,600 during the year. I have about 2,000 names of comrades as the result of this record, the balance of the 2,600 being only the brief record of number instead of names.

I find that there has been a total of 1,060 letters, besides over 300 postal cards, received; this is exclusive of reports. Over 900 letters have been written and copied during the year. I also find, by consulting my cash account, that \$104.00 has been expended in postage stamps, and there have been between 1,300 and 1,400 postal cards used in conducting the business of the Department.

With this brief digression from the regular routine, I will close my report by expressing my renewed confidence in the organization, and my faith in its future, which I feel is assured.

With warmest expressions of gratitude to all comrades for uniform kindness and courtesy, I remain,

Faternally yours,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 29, 1880.JAMES F. MEECH, *Assistant Adjutant-General*.

Comrade: I have the honor to submit the following report of the Assistant Quartermaster-General's Department for the year ending Dec. 31, 1879:—

RECEIPTS.		
Cash on hand as per report of	1878	\$ 10 59
Dues received for fourth quarter,	1878	610 76
“ “ “ first “	1879	618 16
“ “ “ second “	1879	637 36
“ “ “ third “	1879	632 30
Received for Books and Blanks		219 69
“ “ Badges		430 50
“ “ Sundries		39 45
Total		<u>\$3,198 83</u>

EXPENDITURES.		
Salary of Assistant Adjutant-General and \$100.00 added for labor in Assistant Quartermaster-General's Department performed by Assistant Adjutant-General		\$1,300 00
Dues to National Headquarters, fourth quarter 1878, 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th quarters 1879		470 77
Postage and office expenses		170 45
Rent and care of Headquarters office 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th quarters, 1879		350 00
Rent of Amory Hall for use of Convention, 1878,		30 00
Books, supplies, printing, etc. (Boston)		287 02
By vote of Council to Comrade S. Dalton for Inspection		50 00
Badge Ribbons		14 25
Boston Directory		5 00
Copygraph		5 00
Supplies from National Headquarters		129 60
Inspector's expenses for 1878		117 92
Inspector's expenses for 1879		114 44
Total expenditure		<u>\$3,044 45</u>
Included in vouchers No. 331 to 352, 354, 355, 357 to 396.		

ASSETS.		
Due from Posts for dues		\$652 00
Due from Posts for sundries		77 35
Books and Blanks on hand		170 00
Office Furniture		175 00
Colors		30 00
Cash on hand		154 38
		<u>\$1,258 73</u>

LIABILITIES.		
National Headquarters, for dues 4th quarter, 1879,	\$122 27	
National Headquarters, for badges and supplies,	708 00	
	<u>\$830 27</u>	
Excess of assets over liabilities		<u>\$438 46</u>

E. T. RAYMOND,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS. G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 27, 1880.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General:

In compliance with the Rules and Regulations of our Order, I have the honor to report the result of the inspection of the several Posts comprising this Department, and to forward to you a consolidated statement of their condition, with a duplicate copy to be forwarded to the Inspector-General of the National Encampment.

The work of inspection has been performed by the Department officers, — a system inaugurated by my immediate predecessor, and one which commends itself as not only the most thorough and economical, but by far the most beneficial to the Department of any heretofore presented. I would respectfully recommend its continuance.

In obedience to Special Order No. 3, from Department Headquarters, dated March 28, 1879, on the evening of April 3, assisted by the Assistant Adjutant-General and the Chief Mustering Officer, I organized Post No. 102 at Milton. Of the twenty-four names borne upon the application for charter, eighteen of the parties presented themselves and were constituted members of the Post.

By Special Order No. 5, from Department Headquarters, dated April 24, 1879, on the 28th of the same month I organized Union Post No. 50, at Peabody, numbering one hundred and forty-two members: of this number 109 had been members of Post 132, and thirty-three were recruits.

Oct. 27, 1879, the Assistant Adjutant-General reorganized Otis Chapman Post No. 103 at Chicopee, with thirty-nine charter members.

There are at the present time 133 Posts in the Department, 126 of which have been inspected; the remaining seven Posts would have been but for the failure to arrange for the meetings, as most of the number are in poor condition and very irregular with their meetings.

Of the one hundred and twenty-six Posts: —

15 are reported in excellent condition.

54 “ “ good “

32 “ “ fair “

11 “ as improving, and

13 “ in poor condition.

The aggregate membership of these Posts at the time of inspection was 8,128; and that a distinct idea may be had of their relative strength, I have classified them as follows: —

There is but one Post in the Department numbering over 400 members; one over 300; one over 250; one over 200; six from 150 to 175; fourteen from 20 to 25; nine from 100 to 150; twelve from 75 to 100; twenty-seven from 50 to 75; forty-five from 25 to 50; nine less than 20.

From this it will be seen that 68, or one-half of the number of the Posts in the Department, have a membership of less than fifty. I would therefore suggest that special attention be given to these smaller Posts by the Department officers, as well as those in poor condition; and that they be visited and encouraged to continue in the good work of our Order by a steady and wholesome increase in membership.

There are ninety-eight Posts in the Department having a Relief Fund aggregating \$57,864.38, an increase over last year of \$17,008.97. They have disbursed for charity during the year ending Sept. 30, 1879, \$17,829.55.

Twenty-one Posts have adopted the system of paying weekly benefits in cases of sickness or disability.

One	Post	paying	\$5	per	week.
Two	"	"	\$4.00	per	week.
Seven	"	"	3.00	"	"
One	"	"	2.50	"	"
Four	"	"	2.00	"	"
Four	"	"	by committee.		
One	"	"	50	for	funeral expenses.

These benefits are paid for a period varying from six to sixteen weeks. The Department Inspectors have for the past two years recommended to the Posts the adoption of this method of relief; and from the favorable reports received from those Posts that have given it the longest trial, they would still urge its adoption; not only as the most equitable method of disbursing relief, but as an incentive to those who are not members of our organization to become such.

By our Rules and Regulations the quartermaster should have charge of all funds, securities, vouchers, and other property of the Post, and should give security for the faithful discharge of his duties. In quite a number of the Posts the Quartermaster does not hold the funds, and in very many no bonds are given or required. I would respectfully call attention to this fact, and urge that the Posts comply with the Regulations. Again, the inspectors have found, upon examining the books of the quartermasters, that in many of the Posts an auditing committee is unknown; and the accounts of the quartermaster have been allowed to go one, two, and three years without being examined or reported upon as to their correctness. This condition should under no circumstances be allowed to exist. The Post should through its

auditing committee satisfy itself of the conditions of its finances; and the quartermaster should for his own protection demand that the books be carefully examined and properly indorsed.

In most instances the work of the Ritual is well performed. Improvements can, however, be made by the officers of Posts if they will but memorize the work and discard the book. It has been found that the duties of the officers of the day vary more in different Posts than those of any other officer. This will in part be obviated by the "Instructions for Muster-in," recently received from National Headquarters; but that the work of the Ritual may in every respect be uniform throughout the Department, I would recommend that it be exemplified yearly under the direction of the Department officers, either at the Department Convention or at convenient sections of the State, accessible to the largest number of Posts.

The general condition of the Department I believe to be much better than in years past. Posts are more guarded in the disbursements from their relief funds, better situated as regards accommodations for meetings, and more fraternal in their intercourse with each other.

Two Posts in the Department own the buildings they occupy, and 94 posts are furnished with the accepted uniform of the Department — of hat, cord, and belt.

The entire expense to the Department for the yearly inspection is \$121.04, a saving of \$27.33 over last year.

In conclusion I desire to express my appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the Department officers in the work of inspection, and to thank them for the zeal and fidelity with which they have assisted me in the performance of my duties. To the Assistant Adjutant-General I am particularly grateful for his untiring energy in inspecting more than 50 Posts of the Department.

Trusting that our association with each other as comrades may strengthen the ties of Friendship, prompt us to a more ennobling Charity, and cement us more firmly in the bonds of Loyalty,

I remain, fraternally, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CREASEY,
Department Inspector.

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE.

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE,
BOSTON, Jan. 28, 1880.

JAMES F. MEECH, Esq.,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Mass., G.A.R.

Comrade: I have the honor to submit to the Commander and to the Department Encampment the following report of the operations in my department for the past year:—

I have been called to render during the year seven decisions upon matters of interest only to persons concerned therein, and not of general interest to the Order; and the decisions have met with the approval of the Department Commander and have been acquiesced in by the persons interested, so far as I have been informed.

No proceedings of courts-martial have been referred to me during the year, which would justify the inference that the comrades of the Grand Army in this Department have not committed any flagrant offences during the year, or at least have not been detected therein.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.,
GILES H. RICH,
Judge Advocate.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 28, 1880.

Commander and Comrades: In obedience to Section 9, Article VI., Chapter III., Rules and Regulations, the Council of Administration submit the following report of its doings during the past year. The Council has held only four regular meetings, no event of special importance requiring a larger number; and in view of the fact that the members of the Council have been required to do inspection duty, the Commander has called them together only when the necessity became imperative.

We have fully examined the accounts of the Assistant Quartermaster-General, and find them correct. The total receipts for the current year have been \$3,198.32. The total expense for the same time, as per voucher Nos. 331 to 335 and 357 to 396 inclusive, has been \$3,044.45. There is also on hand a contingent of \$39.65, which was forwarded by Posts in 1878 in response to a request from assistant inspectors. This fund was intended to be placed at the disposal of the Assistant Adjutant-General as a sum to be drawn upon to pay for books, blanks, etc., purchased from National Headquarters, and the amount taken to be replaced as soon as the regular dues were received from Posts. Nothing has been added to the fund during the past year. From the fact that several members of the Council served in that capacity last year, and had an opportunity to observe the effects upon Posts of the new method of inspection as performed by the Department, the Council can safely recommend the continuance of this salutary system, believing that the standing of the Department can be kept higher and more interest taken by Posts to have a uniform and correct method of inspection, in which not only should the unwritten work be properly exemplified, but care taken to observe

the general condition of the affairs of the Posts, with a view to remedy existing evils and aid the officers and comrades in the upbuilding of the Order. The valuable services of Assistant Adjutant-General Meech in prosecuting this system of inspection for the past two years cannot be overstated. During the past year he has made more than fifty official visits to Posts. While this has greatly aided the officers in the work of inspection, it has been injurious to the necessary work at Headquarters, where he is needed almost every business day of the year. And the Council recommend, while commending all the labor he has performed, to the newly-elected officers that the Assistant Adjutant-General inspect no Posts that require him to be absent from the duties of his office in the daytime.

And the Council would especially recommend to the committee who are to select the names of candidates for members of this Council, that they present only names of those who will guarantee to perform their proportional part of the duty of inspection. They also recommend that the time for inspection be not confined to the last two months of the year, but that more time be allowed, in order that some Posts may be visited twice if need be; and if, upon due notification, no meeting can be held, another night can be selected by the inspector without calling a special meeting.

The Council would call the attention of the comrades to the new military aid law, which is the direct outgrowth of that appeal of the Grand Army to the people of Massachusetts for a soldiers' home. The new law provides for all soldiers who are worthy and needy that relief so essential to their necessities, and does not disfranchise them in receiving it, and is a check to bummers, who under the former law plundered the State of many thousand dollars. We recommend to Posts to co-operate with the authorities of cities and towns in aiding them to distribute the grand charity, that it shall benefit not only their relief funds by saving them from heavy drains, but shall cause such just and equitable distribution as shall keep the amount within the limits of prudence; so that legislators, in a fit of spasmodic economy, will not tamper with and vitiate the good intent of the law. The good results of this law have undoubtedly been a means of checking an enthusiastic movement in favor of the soldiers' home; but the project has not been lost sight of; and while the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home have, so far as we know, no report to offer, it may be proper for the Council, which has among its members several of the trustees, to say that several locations have been visited, and the price and situations noted, with a view to establishing a small home as an experiment, the cost to be confined to the amount within our means; but no place has as yet been found that combines the requisite qualifications for such purpose, and the matter for the present remains in abeyance. The funds are on deposit, with interest accruing upon them.

The Council would urgently request Posts to take decisive action by committee and by personal work of officers and comrades to strengthen our Order. Hundreds of good men are not among us: practical and systematic effort will bring them in. We recommend to all Posts, that when camp-fires, public or private, are held, that special effort be made to have ex-soldiers not members of the Order present, that they may become interested and afterward join the Post. With the present prosperity of our State and Nation, now an assured fact, there should be no good reason why many comrades may not be added to our ranks. We recommend all Posts in their collective, and all members in their individual, capacity to take an active interest in all the laws of our Commonwealth which will benefit our comrades in the years which are to come. Losing no vantage gained, let us so labor that such laws may be engrafted upon our statute books that, after the Grand Army and other kindred organizations die out, the veteran soldier shall not come to want nor his children beg for bread in the State of their birth or adoption.

In closing this report, we desire to express our thanks to the Assistant Adjutant-General for the unvarying kindness and assistance we have always received from him. Also to testify to the pleasant relations that have always characterized our intercourse with the retiring Commander; and we desire to impress upon the minds of this Convention, that to his active, untiring exertions and personal interest in the welfare of our Order, is due much of the present prosperity that marks the record of another year; and we, as members of the Council, extend to him our best wishes for his future prosperity and success, both in and outside of the Grand Army.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. H. PATCH,
J. FRANK DALTON,
GEO. H. HOWARD,
AZEL AMES, JR.,
JOHN F. BRUCE,

Council of Administration, Dept. of Mass., G.A.R.

SURGEON'S REPORT.

STONEHAM, Jan. 28, 1880.

Very few names of wounded men have been reported to the Medical Director during the past year. The probability is that most of such names have been already reported. We hope that surgeons of Posts will make a strenuous endeavor to ascertain the names of all wounded comrades not already put on record.

The Medical Director would respectfully call the attention of delegates to the importance of taking some action at this

convention in relation to the proposed Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts. Unless speedily established, there is imminent risk of losing the legacy of \$3,000 so kindly bequeathed for that purpose. Let us discuss this vital question at all our meetings and move forward simultaneously.

Respectfully submitted,

W. SYMINGTON BROWN, M.D.,

Medical Director, Dept. of Mass.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Commander and Comrades :

I deem it a matter of gratitude to Almighty God, that you, sir, and all your associates, have been spared to us during the year now passed. That although death hath entered the ranks of many Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic within the bounds of this Commonwealth, and brought desolation to many hearts and homes, around yours and those associated with you he hath passed, leaving no widows or orphans to be sustained by the hand of charity. In presenting to you, Commander and Comrades, very briefly, my first annual report, I beg of you each to accept my heartfelt thanks for the very cordial manner in which I have been received by each of you, but especially by those Posts it hath been my pleasure to visit during the past year.

For he, bearing the garb of the Christian religion, has gone in and out among you, at fairs, festivals, and camp-fires, and yet has heard no unchristian remark or seen a single disgraceful action from a single member of this noble band of loyal and true men, but what might have been heard under the eaves of the building used for Christian worship on the Sabbath day. I have seen you striving only to outdo each other in the manly and noble work of providing funds to comfort your distressed and sorrowing comrades, whom by God's grace you have been able to succor; as well as the widow, whose tears you have dried, the orphan whose hunger you have satisfied, and the naked whom you have clothed. This, Mr. Commander and Comrades, is a work of which angels might be proud. And who among us can wonder at this, when the very foundation of our noble structure rests upon that solid basis, Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Go on, then, my brothers, in this glorious work: as in the past, so in the future. Nor may it only be the memory of deeds that gold or silver hath done, but also those born of a brighter, holier gold — the heart's pure charity. The words of sympathy and hope spoken to the crushed and bleeding heart, the hand of love and comradeship stretched out to bring relief and encouragement to our deserving comrade, who, struggling unaided and alone, is striving hand in hand with life in its terrible conflicts.

And who but you, my comrades, can do this glorious work? Who but you, who have shared with them the heat and burden of the day, in the battlefields of the South, in the terrible rebellion through which we passed to save our country's honor and our country's flag?

Massachusetts, our grand old Commonwealth: all honor to her rulers! especially those, who sit in the chair of state in the past year and in the present. These have done much during the year to assist us at our gatherings, to provide means to carry out our noble charities. But yours, my brothers, must be the hand to dispense it. For from no other hand can it be done with such sympathy and love.

And as you, Commander, and you, Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, shall pass away one after another to your reward above; and as you shall knock at the door of the great Temple above for admission, giving the password, the door shall open wide to receive you, and the voice of our loving Father shall be heard, in words that cannot be misunderstood, "As much as ye have done it unto one of these, the least of my little ones, ye have done it unto me: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

But, Commander and Comrades, I had almost forgotten, sir, that you had requested me to speak of the spiritual condition of the Grand Army of this Department. Let me say, sir, in closing, that its spiritual condition, so far as I know, is good; and many honorable and true men have made a great advancement during the year in the divine life. And, Commander, at the beginning of the year my hopes ran high that you, too, sir, would succumb to its sacred influences before your term of office had expired. But, Comrades, some two weeks since, I was startled as if a thunderbolt had fallen from a clear sky. I read in my morning paper this announcement: "Commander John G. B. Adams, in speaking at a great dinner at one of our large hotels in Boston, in the presence of a large number of the most influential men of the State, made this statement: That his first religious impression, and the religion he now possessed, had been obtained from his Chaplain: not the Chaplain of the Department, but the honorable and Rev. E. D. Winslow, now traveling as a fugitive in a foreign land." Comrades, judge of my surprise when I found that all my exertions in this direction had proved a failure.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.

JOHN W. LEE,
Department Chaplain, G.A.R.

On motion it was voted, That the various reports of the Department officers be received and placed on file; and on further motion it was also voted, That the reading of the records be dispensed with.

On motion of Comrade Charles A. Stott of Post 42, of Lowell, it was voted, That the recommendation of the Commander regarding the petitioning of the Legislature to make Memorial Day a legal "Memorial Day" be referred to a committee of five, to consider and report at the session tomorrow. The following committee was appointed, Comrade Stott declining to serve:—

J. P. Maxfield,	Post 42	W. H. Hart,	Post 35
Henry W. Briggs,	" 1	C. W. Hastings,	" 58
Thomas J. Tute, Post 7			

On motion of Comrade J. D. Billings of Post 94, of Canton, it was voted, That a committee of ten be appointed by the Commander, to consider the question of an encampment of the Department during the coming year. Comrade Billings asked to be excused from serving on the committee, as he could not remain at the meeting.

The following committee was appointed:—

George W. Powers,	Post 15	William W. Foster,	Post 84
George L. Goodale	" 66	Henry W. Johnson,	" 134
Josiah Pickett,	" 10	C. S. Anthony,	" 3
Clark B. Baldwin,	" 4	J. E. Barrows,	" 56
E. P. Gibbs,	" 123	Thomas H. Hill,	" 33

After some discussion it was voted, That when we adjourn tonight it be to meet at 9 o'clock A.M. Thursday, 29th inst., at this place.

On motion of Comrade Richard F. Tobin of Post 30, of Cambridgeport, the Department Commander was instructed to appoint a committee of five, to report a list of five comrades to serve as Council of Administration. The Commander appointed

Richard F. Tobin,	Post 30	E. P. Simpson,	Post 142
John Collins,	" 6	Rufus Livermore,	" 14
E. S. Horton, Post 145			

On motion of Commander Churchill of Post 10, of Worcester, it was voted, That a committee of nine be appointed by the Commander, to report a list of names for delegates and alternates to the next National meeting, to be held at Dayton, Ohio.

The following committee was appointed :—

J. K. Churchill,	Post 10	J. H. Gleason,	Post 77
Orin Warren,	“ 151	W. A. Linehan,	“ 52
Hiram A. Wright,	“ 26	A. B. Hodges,	“ 3
H. N. Smith,	“ 146	——— Greenwood,	“ 61
A. C. Belcher, Post 32.			

Comrade W. D. Cole of Post 18, Ashland, addressed the Encampment on the question of State aid, and on his motion it was voted that the subject be referred to a committee of five to be appointed by the Commander; the committee to report tomorrow. The Commander appointed the following committee :—

W. D. Cole,	Post 18	Thomas H. Hill,	Post 33
George H. Teague,	“ 12	George H. Patch,	“ 142
George L. Goodale, Post 66			

The following dispatch was received and read :—

NEW HAVEN, CONN., Jan. 28, 1880.

To Commander G.A.R., Department of Massachusetts :

The delegates to the Annual Encampment Department of Connecticut, G.A.R., send kindly greeting to the delegates to the Encampment of your Department, in the true spirit of Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

(Signed) F. A. CHASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A dispatch was also received as follows :—

EAST BOSTON, MASS., Jan. 28, 1880.

J. G. B. ADAMS,

Commander Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.

FROM WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS TO DEPARTMENT OF MASS., G.A.R.,
Greeting :

Officers elected today: President, Sarah E. Fuller; Senior Vice President, E. Florence Barker; Junior Vice-President, Sophia F. Parker; Secretary, Kathrina L. Beedle; Treasurer, M. Amanda Thayer; Chaplain, T. M. Boynton; Conductor, Ellen M. Barrows; Guard, Ellen Scates.

Per order Convention,

KATHRINA L. BEEDLE.

On motion of Comrade E. W. Thompson of Post 42, Lowell, it was voted, That the Assistant Adjutant-General extend the greeting of this Department to the Departments of Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois, in convention in their respective States; and after a brief discussion it was voted to lay the communication from the Woman's Relief Corps on the table.

As there did not appear to be any further business to transact, the Commander gave notice of the exemplification of the work and a collation in the upper halls, to be followed by a camp-fire in this hall.

The Encampment adjourned.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ODD FELLOWS HALL, LYNN, Jan. 29, 1880.

As per adjournment, the Department Encampment was called to order at nine o'clock A.M. by Department Commander John G. B. Adams. The roll-call by the Assistant Adjutant-General showed 267 Department officers, past Department Commanders, and delegates present. After Divine blessing had been invoked by Department Chaplain John W. Lee, a dispatch was read from the Department of Illinois, as follows : —

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 28, 1880.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Mass., G.A.R.

The Department of Illinois, G.A.R., in Fourteenth Encampment assembled, send greeting to the Department of Massachusetts, in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

(Signed)

CHARLES R. E. KOCH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The Department Commander announced the Encampment open for business, whereupon Comrade J. P. Maxfield of Post 42 reported for the Committee on Memorial Day as follows : —

The Committee to whom was referred so much of the Commander's Address as recommends that the necessary legislation be secured as will make May 30 a legal Memorial Day in this Commonwealth, respectfully report that they have considered the subject as carefully as the time will permit ; and while the Committee recognize the importance of the question, and the able arguments that might be made on both sides of the question, the Committee recommend that the incoming Department Commander be requested to memorialize the General Court to set apart Memorial Day as a legal holiday.

The report of the Committee was accepted.

At this point, Commander William L. Baird of Post 5, Lynn, asked the indulgence of the Encampment for a moment, and announced that he was authorized by Post 5 to tender to the delegates a complimentary banquet, to be served in Exchange Hall at 2

o'clock P.M.; and at Commander Baird's suggestion it was voted, That if the business of the Encampment should not be concluded at 1.50 P.M., an adjournment should be had at that hour for dinner.

The committee appointed to nominate a list of names for Delegates and Alternates to National Encampment reported through Commander J. K. Churchill of Post 10, Worcester; and on his motion it was voted, That the report of the committee be laid on the table until after the election of Department officers.

The committee appointed at the evening session to consider the question of an encampment of the Department the current year, reported, by Comrade George W. Powers of Post 15, Boston, as follows:—

The committee chosen to investigate part of Commander's Report relating to matter of State Encampment, having given the subject their consideration, respectfully report, That in the absence of definite information as to the probable cost to Posts and individuals, they consider a State Encampment this year inexpedient, and suggest that the Council of Administration should endeavor to obtain proper information during the coming year for the use of the next annual Convention; and if county encampments, which the committee suggest, should be held during the year, a fuller experience may be derived by which to guide future action.

SIGNED BY THE COMMITTEE.

The committee appointed to report a list of names for Council of Administration submitted their report, and recommended that it be laid on the table until after the election of Department officers, which was agreed to.

Comrade E. W. Thompson of Post 42, Lowell, moved, That we proceed to the election of Department officers for the ensuing year, and that two committees of three each be appointed by the Department Commander to receive, assort, and count votes for the various officers, the first committee to act for Department Commander, the second committee for Senior Vice Department Commander, and so alternately until the officers shall be elected.

The motion prevailed, and the Commander appointed on first committee: E. W. Thompson of Post 42, J. D. Cogswell of Post 131, L. M. Alden of Post 8.

Second committee: Samuel M. Weale of Post 23, Sidney Sibley of Post 19, F. M. Harrington of Post 96.

Nominations being next in order, Comrade Cogswell of Post 34 presented the name of Comrade George S. Evans of Post 30 as a candidate for Department Commander. Comrade Freeman C. Luce of Post 1 presented the name of Senior Vice Department Commander John A. Hawes of Post 1, which was seconded by Comrade Charles A. Stott of Post 42. Comrade Foster Wilson of Post 71, Holyoke, presented the name of Comrade Samuel B. Spooner, the present Junior Vice Department Commander of the Department. No other nominations were made, and a ballot was had which the committee reported as follows:—

For Department Commander:—

Whole number of votes	231
Necessary for a choice	116
Samuel B. Spooner of Post 16	4
George S. Evans " 30	69
John A. Hawes " 1	158

On motion of Comrade Cogswell of Post 34, the vote was made unanimous; and John A. Hawes of Post 1, New Bedford, was declared elected Department Commander for the ensuing year. Comrade Hawes accepted the position.

The next business was the election of Senior Vice Department Commander.

Comrade J. P. Maxfield of Post 42 nominated Comrade Thomas H. Hill of Post 33, which was seconded by Comrade William H. Hart of Post 35. The balloting proceeded, and the committee reported for Senior Vice Department Commander:—

Whole number of votes	214
Necessary for a choice	108
J. A. Hawes, Post 1	1
H. Hill, " 35	1
George S. Evans, " 30	1
B. S. Lovell, " 58	2
C. P. Davis, "	4
Thomas H. Hill, " 33	205

And Comrade Hill was declared elected, and he accepted the position of Senior Vice Department Commander.

Comrade Azel Ames, Jr., of Post 12, placed in nomination Comrade Benj. S. Lovell of Post 58 for the position of Junior Vice Department Commander. Comrade G. H. Rich of Post 26 seconded the above nomination. The ballot was declared as follows for Junior Vice Department Commander:—

Whole number of votes	203
Necessary for a choice	102
Comrade J. Frank Dalton	6
“ Benj. S. Lovell	197

And Comrade Lovell was declared elected Junior Vice Department Commander, which position he accepted.

On motion of Comrade J. F. Berry of Post 75, the Assistant Adjutant-General was instructed to cast one ballot for W. Symington Brown of Post 75, for Medical Director.

The ballot was cast as directed, and Comrade Brown was declared elected Medical Director.

Unanimous consent was given, and on motion of Comrade Henry W. Johnson of Post 134, the Assistant Adjutant-General was instructed to cast the vote of the Encampment for Comrade John W. Lee of Post 11, for Chaplain. The vote was cast, and Comrade Lee was declared elected Chaplain, which position he accepted.

The report of the Committee to nominate a Council of Administration was, on motion of the chairman of the committee, Comrade R. F. Tobin of Post 30, taken from the table; and after being read a brief discussion was participated in by several comrades, at the termination of which a ballot was ordered. During the progress of the count by the committee, Comrade Thos. J. Ames of Post 53 moved, That the unanimous thanks of the Encampment be extended by the Assistant Adjutant-General to the Odd Fellows of Lynn, for their generous offer of the use of their halls, in which this Encampment has been held. The foregoing motion was unanimously passed.

The Committee on Ballot for Council of Administration reported as follows:—

Whole number of votes cast	115
Necessary for a choice	58
Azel Ames, Jr., Post 12	105
John F. Bruce, “ 19	103
John Scates, “ 7	107
Chas. A. Stott, “ 42	108
Benj. A. Bridges, “ 6	105

The balance of the votes were widely scattering, and the five named comrades were declared elected as Council of Administration for the ensuing year, they being the names reported by the Committee.

The report of Committee to nominate a list of Delegates and Alternates to National Encampment was taken from the table; and after some discussion the report of the Committee was amended slightly and the following comrades were elected by a ballot cast for each name by the Assistant Adjutant-General:—

DELEGATE-AT-LARGE.		ALTERNATE-AT-LARGE.	
Henry B. Peirce.	Post 73	Frank McGraw,	Post 96
DELEGATES.		ALTERNATES.	
Josiah Pickett,	Post 10	Thos. E. Cutter,	Post 49
W. C. Lovering,	" 3	W. W. Doherty,	" 125
A. C. Monroe,	" 13	H. W. Johnson,	" 134
Wm. M. Olin,	" 26	Foster Wilson,	" 103
E. M. Clapp,	" 103	B. A. Hathaway,	" 76
Orin Warren,	" 151	C. B. Baldwin,	" 4
D. W. Lawrence,	" 66	Wm. T. Soule,	" 1
S. B. Spooner,	" 16	James Noonan,	" 39

Senior Vice-Commander-elect Comrade Thomas H. Hill of Post 33 extended an invitation to the Department to hold their next meeting with Post 33, Woburn. The matter was referred to the Council of Administration.

The communication from the Woman's Relief Corps was taken from the table, whereupon Comrade George L. Goodale of Post 66 addressed the Encampment, endorsing the organization, and closed by introducing a resolution, recognizing the organization. A great deal of interest in the matter was manifested, remarks being made by Comrades Goodale of 66, Weale of 23, Barker of 40, Follett of 88, Merrill of 39, Underwood of 62, Blackmar of 113, and others. Finally, on motion of Comrade Weale of 23, the whole matter was indefinitely postponed by a vote of 115 to 40.

The Committee on State Aid submitted their report as follows:—

Your Committee on State Aid have attended to their duties, and beg leave to make the following report. We approach with great diffidence a question that has received the attention of the best legislative talent of the Commonwealth; but believing that a more perfect system is desirable, we ask you to consider the following propositions: It seems to us that it is of the utmost importance that the Laws of 1879 be amended in two particulars, and that the laws as amended be made a part of the permanent legislation of the State. Therefore we recommend,

1. That the word *shall* be substituted for the word *may* in Section 1 of the present law.

2. That aid under this law be extended to and include the family of the indigent soldier or sailor; and to this end we would recommend that this Department, by a committee or otherwise, bring this matter to the attention of the Committee on Military Affairs of the Legislature, and ask them to take such action as will bring about the above result.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

For the Committee,

W. D. COLE,
Chairman.

After certain explanations had been made as to the present and prospective workings of the laws, on motion of Comrade George H. Patch of Post 142, it was voted, That this matter of State aid be referred to a special committee consisting of the Department Commander, the Senior Vice Department Commander, and Comrade W. D. Cole of Post 18, with full powers.

Comrade Giles H. Rich, Judge Advocate, offered the following, which was adopted by a unanimous rising vote:—

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this Encampment be, and they are hereby, tendered to the officers and members of Post 5, G.A.R., of Lynn, for the unremitting attention, liberal hospitality, and fraternal welcome they have extended to all comrades attending this meeting.

Comrade Charles A. Stott of Post 42 moved, That the delegates to National Encampment be instructed to secure, if possible, the repeal of the following words in Section 4, Article IV., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, viz.: “And if elected he shall be reobligated.” Comrade Patch of Post 142 seconded the motion, and it was passed.

Comrade Patch of Post 142 submitted the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Convention that the incoming Council of Administration consider, subject to the consent of the Assistant Adjutant-General, such measures as will obviate the necessity of calling the roll at future Encampments of this Department; and if any way is devised, to take the necessary steps to carry it into effect at the next annual meeting.

And this:—

Resolved, That the delegates from this Department to the National Encampment be requested to secure, if possible, such a change in Rules

and Regulations as will permit a Post to be represented in the Department by the Senior Vice-Commander when the Commander is unable to be present.

The latter was referred to the delegates, and the former to the Council of Administration, with full powers in each case.

Past Department Commander William Cogswell installed the following officers : —

Department Commander,	John A. Hawes.
Senior Vice Department Commander,	Thomas H. Hill.
Junior Vice Department Commander,	Benj. S. Lovell.
Chaplain,	John W. Lee.
Council of Administration :	{ Azel Ames, Jr.,
	{ John F. Bruce,
	{ Charles A. Stott.

There being no further business to transact, the Encampment adjourned at 1.45 P.M.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1879.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, March 28, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 1. }

Having been elected and installed as Commander of this Department for the ensuing year, I hereby assume the duties of the office:—

Comrades: I would call your attention to the importance of recruiting our ranks. In every city and town in this Commonwealth there are many honorably discharged soldiers and sailors who have never joined our Order. These should be “mustered in” and united with us in our great work of charity.

This must be the individual work of comrades; and it is earnestly desired that all honorable means should be used to increase our membership and again place this Department in the front rank as the largest Department in the Union.

II. The following comrades are hereby announced as the “Official Staff” of the Commander, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

James F. Meech of Post 10, Worcester, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Edward T. Raymond of Post 10, Worcester, Assistant Quartermaster-General.

George W. Creasey of Post 49, Newburyport, Inspector.

Giles H. Rich of Post 26, Roxbury, Judge Advocate.

Charles W. Wilcox of Post 22, Milford, Chief Mustering Officer.

III. All official correspondence must be signed by Post Commanders and addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General (at 53 Tremont Street, Room 3), whose office hours will be as heretofore.

IV. A new National countersign is herewith transmitted to all Posts that did not receive it at the Department Encampment. After the countersign is read the “Key” will be at once returned to these Headquarters.

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
Department Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, March 28, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 2. }

I. At a meeting of the Council of Administration of this Department, held at these Headquarters March 6, Comrade John F. Bruce of Post 19, Fitchburg, was unanimously elected a member of the Council, *vice* Comrade George W. Creasey, resigned.

II. The following comrades are appointed on the Staff of the Commander, and they will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

AIDES-DE-CAMP.

Augustus J. Hoitt,	Lynn	Henry B. Peirce,	Abington
John C. Sullivan,	Middleboro	George A. Thayer,	S. Boston
Alfred C. Monroe,	Brockton	John F. Dolan,	Hudson
Samuel M. Weale,	E. Boston	Alfred J. Kirby,	Oxford
George W. Merritt,	Scituate	David L. Hodges,	Dedham
J. A. Josselyn,	Brookfield	George D. Willis,	Braintree
James H. Rice,	Brighton	Marcus Kimball,	Groveland
Joseph H. Gleason,	Holden	William W. Foster,	S. Deerfield
George S. Marsh,	Ware	Richard W. Oliver,	New Bedford
Rufus Livermore,	Orange	William C. Wood,	Ayer
Thomas H. Hill,	Woburn	William B. Kimball,	Enfield
Henry F. Sawyer,	Sterling	Lorenzo D. Sargent,	Lawrence

III. A list of the officers elected at the Annual Encampment of this Department, held at Boston, January 29 and 30, appears in the roster accompanying this order.

IV. Blanks for adjutant and quartermaster reports for first quarter are herewith forwarded to Posts. A further supply will be furnished as soon as received from National Headquarters.

V. More definite information in regard to the headstones for soldiers' graves, as mentioned in National Circular No. 3, will be communicated in next General Orders from National Headquarters.

* * * * *

By order of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,

Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, May 5, 1879. }

HEADSTONES FOR SOLDIERS' GRAVES.

SPECIAL CIRCULAR.

In compliance with Circular No. 3, from National Headquarters, and in accordance with Paragraph V. of General Orders No. 2 from these Headquarters, the following information is furnished regarding headstones for the graves of Union soldiers who are buried in city, village, and private cemeteries, and "whose graves are unmarked." This applies to the graves of not only those who died during the war, but to those who have died since their muster-out or discharge.

A blank is herewith forwarded on which the report is to be made, and all reports must be made to these Headquarters. Additional blanks will be furnished on application to this office; but in all cases of orders for more blanks care should be taken to state the probable number of additional names to be reported.

The utmost care should be taken in searching out all unmarked graves of soldiers who may be buried in this Commonwealth; and to accomplish this, the co-operation not only of city and town authorities, but all warm-hearted, loyal people of the State is invoked, to the end that the grave of every soldier may be plainly and permanently marked.

It is especially desirable, not only that all the information asked for on the blanks should be given, viz. : name, rank, company, regiment, date of death, but that the writing should be perfectly plain and legible.

In cities or towns where there is more than one Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, it is recommended that concerted action be taken, that there be no omissions.

By order of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,

Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, May 5, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3. }

The comrades of this Department are hereby reminded of the near approach of May 30, the day appointed by the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic to be observed in commemoration of the services and sacrifices of our fallen comrades.

It is expected that the Posts of this Department will, with the care bestowed in former years, seek out all graves of comrades "mustered out," and, with some floral tribute placed by loyal, loving hands upon each grave, prove that we have not forgotten them or the cause for which they died. As the time will soon come when other hands than ours must perform this beautiful ceremony, I would earnestly recommend that the children of soldiers and sailors be invited to unite with the Posts of this Department in the observance of the day, that they may fully appreciate the services of their fathers in transmitting to them a free country and a flag that is the emblem of liberty, equal rights, and national unity.

Attention is called to the following resolutions that were unanimously adopted at the twelfth annual meeting of the National Encampment, held at Springfield, Mass., June 4, 1878.

WHEREAS, We, the members of the National Encampment, representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic, the organization that originated and established Memorial Day, and one of whose objects is to perpetuate it, have observed with deep regret a tendency among some people to use the occasion for picnics, excursions, and other merry-makings; therefore,

Resolved, That we deprecate this tendency to depart from the proper observance of the day, and call upon members of the Order, those citizens who were friendly to us while we were in the field, and all persons who appreciate our motives, to frown down and discourage, by all means in their power, any and all attempts to desecrate this, to us, most sacred occasion. And the following:—

Resolved, That all flags hoisted Memorial Day be at half-mast.

By order of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,

Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3,
BOSTON, June 4, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

I. General Orders No. 6 and Circular No. 5 from National Headquarters are herewith promulgated.

II. The Commander desires to congratulate the comrades on the increased interest and membership, as shown in the reports for first quarter. A continuation of the same will give the Department a clear gain of at least one thousand members at the close of the year.

III. A charter has been granted for a new Post in Milton, to be known as Huntington F. Wolcott Post 102: J. Walter Bradlee, Commander.

IV. Post 132 of Peabody having surrendered its charter, a new Post has been organized in that town, to be known as—— Post 50: Cyrus T. Batchelder, Commander.

V. The inspection of the Posts in this Department will be conducted by the Department officers the same as last year; and in order that all books and papers of the adjutant and quartermaster, as well as the records and accounts of relief committees and trustees, may be presented at the inspections, sufficient notice will be given to Post commanders of the official visit.

* * * * *

By order of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Department Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3,
BOSTON, Aug. 23, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 5. }

I. General Orders No. 3, from National Headquarters, are herewith promulgated.

II. Post 50 of Peabody having adopted the name of "Union," the same has been approved.

In accordance with Paragraph V., General Orders No. 4, from these Headquarters, the following Department officers have been detailed to inspect the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

Senior Vice Department Commander, John A. Hawes: 3, 8, 13, 46, 52, 55, 72, 124, 127, 145, 146.

Junior Vice Department Commander, Samuel B. Spooner: 36, 41, 71, 80, 97.

Council of Administration, George H. Patch: 9, 10, 18, 22, 26, 43, 44, 54, 63, 86, 91, 96, 113, 117.

Council of Administration, J. Frank Dalton: 12, 45, 49, 50, 67, 82, 89, 90, 95, 118.

Council of Administration, George H. Howard: 11, 29, 30, 56, 139, 149.

Council of Administration, Azel Ames, Jr.: 4, 33, 35, 40, 66, 75, 148.

Council of Administration, John F. Bruce: 48, 53, 59, 66, 69, 109, 115, 116.

Inspector, George W. Creasey: 5, 34, 39, 42, 47, 58, 100, 101, 108, 114, 119, 122, 151.

Judge Advocate, Giles H. Rich: 57, 62, 68, 81, 92, 94, 143, 144.

Chief Mustering Officer, Charles W. Wilcox: 6, 14, 24, 25, 27, 61, 70, 135, 142.

Assistant Adjutant-General, James F. Meech: 1, 7, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 23, 28, 31, 32, 37, 38, 51, 65, 73, 74, 76, 77, 78, 79, 83, 84, 85, 87, 88, 93, 98, 99, 102, 104, 110, 111, 112, 121, 123, 125, 126, 131, 134, 136.

It is expected that all Department officers, including aides-de-camp, will co-operate with and assist the above officers in their inspections when practicable.

As it is important that the inspections should be concluded on or before December 1, it may be necessary in some instances to call special meetings of Posts; therefore commanders of Posts will govern themselves accordingly.

The traveling expenses of the officers will be borne by the Department, but all local expenses will be paid by the Post visited. At each inspection the complete ceremony will be shown, including muster-in; and all books and papers of the Post, including records of the relief committee or trustees, must be presented for inspection. A statement of amount expended for relief, for the year ending September 30, will be required.

Inspectors will insist upon a strict compliance with Section 1, Article VII., Chapter V., General Rules, Rules and Regulations.

IV. The Assistant Adjutant-General will be absent on inspection duty during September; but the Assistant Quartermaster-General will be in attendance from 12 to 1 o'clock daily. Correspondence will continue as usual.

* * * * *

By command of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, Sept 29, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 6. }

I. General Orders No. 4 from National Headquarters are herewith promulgated.

II. Blanks of Forms A and B are herewith forwarded to all Posts that have not been supplied. Sample envelopes have also been sent with the above; if desired, they will be supplied to all Posts who so order. Adjutants and quartermasters of Posts are reminded of the requirements of Rules and Regulations regarding returns, viz.: they are to be made out promptly on the first days of each quarter, and presented to the P.C.; if correct, they are to be properly endorsed and forwarded by him, together with the *per capita* tax, to Department Headquarters. The provisions of Section 1, Article II., Chapter V., General Rules, should be carefully observed. Posts should bear in mind that the basis of representation to next Department Encampment is determined by number reported in good standing this third quarter.

III. A copy of Proceedings of National Encampment at Albany, together with the new Manual adopted at the same meeting, will be at once forwarded to Posts. A thorough familiarity with the Manual is of the utmost importance, especially to all officers, and it is recommended that it be read to the Post as soon as practicable after its reception. Particular attention is called to the article on "Court-Martial."

IV. A supply of Rules and Regulations (edition of 1879) has been received. Posts or Comrades will be supplied at the usual price, six cents per copy. Every Post should have one or more copies.

* * * * *

By command of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Nov. 24, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 NO. 7. }

I. General Orders No. 5, and circular from National Headquarters, together with a confidential circular from these Headquarters, are herewith promulgated to this Department. Especial attention is called to the circular from this office.

II. Post 103 of Chicopee has been reorganized, with its original name and number, viz.: "Otis Chapman Post 103"; Amos O. Kinney, Commander.

III. Blanks of Form F, on which the annual surgeon's report is to be made, are herewith inclosed. This report must accompany the adjutant's and quartermaster's reports for fourth quarter, 1879. Only those wounded comrades are to be reported who were omitted last year and those who have been admitted this year. A copy of this report must be retained in the Medical Descriptive Book of the Post. In case a Post has no wounded comrades to report, the Blank F will be returned to these Headquarters so endorsed.

IV. Posts must bear in mind that the first meeting in December is the time appointed for the election of Post officers and representatives to the Department Encampment. A blank is herewith inclosed on which Posts are to make the return of the election of Post Commander and delegates and alternates. Be sure to give name and post-office address of new Post Commander on this blank. The number of delegates to which each Post is entitled shall be determined by the number of comrades reported in good standing on reports for quarter ending September 30. The basis of representation remains as heretofore.

V. The order announcing mustering officers will be issued early in December, and the Chief will be governed by the wishes of Posts in their selection, when practicable. Recommendations must be forwarded on or before December 20, and in no case will an assignment be made unless the Post or its representative so designates.

VI. All Posts that have not forwarded lists of unmarked soldiers' graves are directed to do so at once.

* * * * *

By command of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,

Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Nov. 22, 1879. }

CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR.

Comrades: The Commander desires to impress upon the minds of all comrades and the Posts of this Department the importance of renewed and constant work, tending to an increase of the membership, not only by the admission of recruits, but by the reinstatement of members that have been suspended and dropped.

The especial attention of comrades is called to the large number of members that have been lost by suspension and are being carried on such rolls in all the Posts of this Department.

The reports of the inspectors show that in many Posts a number equal to one-third or one-half of the membership of the Posts are on the suspended lists; and unless earnest efforts are made to gather in and reinstate such members before Jan. 1, 1880, this Department will show a loss in membership.

This condition of things should not be allowed to exist in this Commonwealth, while New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and the Western States are showing large gains. Massachusetts has occupied the proud position of being the leader in our Order, and there is no reason why she should take even second place, and especially in an organization that is pre-eminently the representative veteran order of the country.

I would recommend that a committee on delinquent members be at once appointed in each Post to act with the quartermaster, and that every effort be made to increase the membership and show the actual standing of the Department.

The Order in this State is in excellent condition, with the exception referred to, and this is generally the result of carelessness on the part of comrades. If Posts will act at once and earnestly in this matter, we can show a net gain of at least one thousand members by our annual reports.

By command of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,

Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, Dec. 27, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 8. }

The following-named comrades are hereby detailed as mustering officers, and will install the officers of the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

Henry W. Briggs, New Bedford,	1	Alfred M. Williams, Taunton,	3
J. W. Sawyer, Saugus,	4	George S. Merrill, Lawrence,	5
John A. Hawes, Fairhaven,	8	O. F. Nims, Boston,	7
C. W. Wilcox, Milford,	18	A. M. Parker, Worcester,	10, 70
William F. Draper, Milford,	22	John Phillips, Waltham,	19
Henry N. Fisher, Waltham,	29	Joseph H. Barnes, E. Boston,	23
S. B. Crane, S. Boston,	32	Geo. H. Patch, S. Framingh'm,	30
J. Frank Dalton, Salem,	34	George H. Buck, Chelsea,	35
Edward Hogan, E. Brookfield,	38	William A. Alley, Marlboro',	43
Henry B. Peirce, Abington,	47	E. P. Simpson, S. Framingham,	44
Charles H. Chase, Salem,	50	William C. Wood, Ayer,	48
Richard F. Tobin, Cambridgep't,	57	George S. Evans, Cambridge,	56
Lucius Field, Clinton,	64	A. G. Forbush, Ashland,	63
D. O. Judd, Holyoke,	71, 103	Jonas Brown, W. Warren,	65
A. C. Monroe, Brockton,	73	A. St. John Chamber, Franklin,	72
W. W. Montgomery, N. Adams,	79, 126	John L. Parker, Woburn,	75
Charles Stowell, S. Deerfield,	84	C. E. Barnes, Plymouth,	76
J. F. Dolan, Hudson,	86	Joseph Gregory, Marblehead,	82
Joseph Blake, Danvers,	90	William G. Sheen, Quincy,	88
John F. Ridley, Methuen,	100	C. B. Baldwin, Melrose,	95
Cleveland Gould, Georgetown,	108	Charles B. Fox, Boston,	102
A. N. Sampson, Boston,	113	Charles H. Mansfield, Saugus,	118
James W. Goodrich, Amesbury,	122	Charles Grey, Athol,	123
Charles F. King, Somerville,	139	William H. Hart, Chelsea,	142
David L. Hodges, Boston,	144, 149	John T. Wilson, Winchester,	148

II. Post Commanders will at once put themselves in communication with their mustering officers, giving time and place of installation. In case of the absence of the comrade designated above for any Post, and where no comrade has been assigned, any past Post commander in good

standing (except the retiring commander) may act. In no case will the officers of any Post be installed until all reports and dues have been forwarded. (See page 7 of the Service Book.)

By command of JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH, *Chief Mustering Officer.*
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3,
BOSTON, Dec. 29, 1879. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

I. The Annual Encampment of this Department will be convened in the Academy of Music, Market Street, Lynn, on Wednesday, Jan. 28, 1880, at 7 o'clock P.M., for the election of Department officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before it. Posts are entitled to the following ratio of representation: One delegate for every fifty members reported in good standing September 30, with one additional for final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever its numbers, shall be entitled to at least one delegate. Post commanders are members of the Encampment by virtue of their office.

II. Department Headquarters will be established at the Sagamore House, where the Council of Administration will assemble at 4 o'clock P.M., January 28.

III. The Commander of Post 5 will detail an Officer of the Day, an Officer of the Guard, and at least eight Sentinels for duty during the Encampment. The Officer of the Day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General at 6.30 P.M. on the 28th for instructions.

IV. The adjutant's, quartermaster's, and surgeon's reports, together with all dues and a list of delegates and alternates to Department Encampment, should be forwarded to these Headquarters on or before Jan. 10, 1880. The Rules require the exclusion from the Encampment of any Post failing to make complete returns, especially surgeon's report on Form F. (See Paragraph III., General Orders No. 7, from these Headquarters.) Two blank credentials have been furnished each Post. These blanks should give name and post-office address of Commander for 1880, also, names of delegates and alternates; but these credentials, as well as reports for the fourth quarter, must be signed by the officers of 1879. One copy of credentials is to be forwarded to Headquarters as above; the other copy is to be taken to the Encampment by a representative of the Post.

Section 1, Article II., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, provides that Post commanders shall forward at the close of each quarter, with the quarterly returns, "the names of any members of his Post in good standing who have held the position of Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief of the National Encampment, or of Department Commander, and a list of names of rejected applicants," for the quarter.

VI. All communications regarding quarters at the Encampment should be addressed to Comrade Alex. S. Wright, Lynn, Mass. Further information regarding transportation, quarters, etc., will be given in a circular to be issued soon after January 1.

* * * * *

By command of JOHN G. B. ADAMS,
Department Commander.
JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

	HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,	}
	53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3,	
GENERAL ORDERS }	BOSTON, Jan. 20, 1880.	
NO. 10.	}	

I. So much of Paragraph I., General Orders No. 9, from these Headquarters, calling the annual meeting of the Department at the Academy of Music, is hereby revoked, and the Encampment will assemble at Odd Fellows Hall, corner Market and Summer Streets, Lynn, at the hour previously named, viz.: 7 o'clock p.m., January 28. Commanders of Posts will inform all their delegates of the above change.

II. An invitation having been extended to the officers of Post 5 to exemplify the work of the Order in the presence of the Encampment, and the same having been accepted, it is desired that every Post in the Department should be represented at this meeting, not only for the purpose of witnessing the new muster-in service, but to take part in the general business of the Convention, which promises to be of more than usual interest. Further information regarding transportation, etc., etc., is contained in a circular herewith inclosed.

III. The address of any of the following-named persons is wanted at these Headquarters: Sergeant Schanks, Sergeant Ingram, Sergeant Smith, Corp. George Miller, Luke Olio, Edward Schæg, Thomas Jones, all of Co. B, 2d U.S. Cav.

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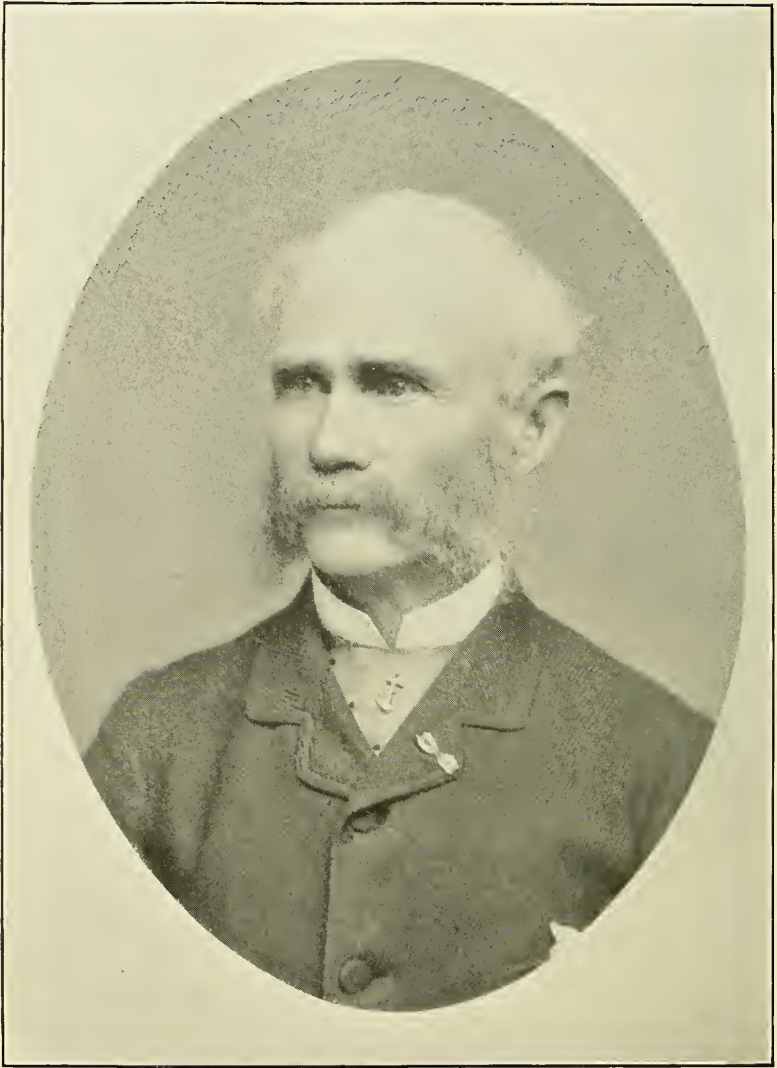
By command of

JOHN G. B. ADAMS,

Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.



JOHN A. HAWES,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER.
1880.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ENCAMPMENT AT BOSTON,

1881.

THE Annual Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts, Grand Army of the Republic, was called to order in Faneuil Hall, Boston, Jan. 26, 1881, at 7.30 P.M., by Department Commander John A. Hawes.

Prayer was offered by Department Chaplain John W. Lee.

Commander Hawes announced that, in compliance with a resolution adopted at the last Encampment, the Council had devised a system of tickets, hoping thereby to do away with the tedious roll-call. The tickets were in themselves credentials; and the Commander announced that in accordance with the "Rules of Order," he had appointed a committee of five on credentials, as follows:—

Assistant Adjutant-General James F. Meech, Inspector George W. Creasey, Comrade Charles A. Stott of the Council, Aide-de-Camp William A. Sloane, and Comrade George W. Powers of Post 15.

The Assistant Adjutant-General reported for the above committee:—

Whole number of comrades entitled to seats	
in this Encampment	311
Whole number present	236
Divided as follows:—	
Department officers	11
Past Department Commanders	4
Post Commanders	80
Delegates and Alternates	142
Total	236

The report of the committee was accepted.

On motion of Commander George A. Thayer of Post 2, the reading of the records was dispensed with.

An invitation was extended to the Past Department Commanders present to take seats on the platform, and Comrades William Cogswell, George S. Merrill, and John G. B. Adams responded.

The next business was the reports of the Department officers, commencing with the

ADDRESS OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER JOHN A. HAWES.
Comrades:

Agreeable to custom, it devolves upon me to impart to you whatever may be of interest concerning our organization, either by way of information or suggestion. We have met together for business, and it is not the time or place to indulge in "glittering generalities," for oratorical display, or flights of eloquence. Were it so I should not attempt that which I know would be a failure upon my part and weariness on yours; so, briefly as is possible, I ask attention to that which I have the honor to report to you.

It is with much pleasure and pride that I congratulate you upon the increased confidence manifested by the people of the Commonwealth towards our organization, its objects and its aims. Our beloved State, which has always been as father and mother to the "boys in blue" in the person of its chief magistrate as representative, has always been ready and willing to respond to our call, and by his voice and presence at our gatherings, manifest the Commonwealth's love for and sympathy with the members of the Grand Army of the Republic and their old comrades in arms.

It is not my purpose to compare the past year with others, as to the numerical standing of comrades in our Department; and it is only necessary for me to say, as you will see by the various reports, that our roll has during the past year been increased; and by information received from various parts, our gain has been healthy, our growth apparently lasting until death orders to "break ranks." It is not the result of spasmodic interest, but that which comes from sober reason combined with action. Our companionship, bound together by the triple cord of "Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty," must enfold all honorable men who, in the times "that tried men's souls," shoulder to shoulder supported each other while toiling up the rugged and blood-stained hill of war, and planted "Old Glory" on its summit, to be seen and honored by all the nations of the earth; and shoulder to shoulder, heart with heart, still supporting each other, should march together down

into the valley of the shadow of death: and it should be our duty and our pride, by personal effort, to enlist them in our ranks. Appeals solely to sympathy are evanescent: to reason, lasting; and no organization on the face of the earth can more justly appeal to its fellow men than can the old soldier and sailor to their former companions in arms.

For our numerical increase and strength and financial standing, I respectfully refer you to the reports of the Inspector and Quartermaster-General. In brief, our gain has been during the year, 604; amount in relief fund, \$62,207.89; gain over last year, \$4,343.51; amount expended for relief, \$19,291.77; increase over last year, \$1,462.22.

MEMORIAL DAY A LEGAL HOLIDAY.

Agreeably to votes passed at the last Annual Encampment, I have petitioned the Legislature that Memorial Day be made a legal holiday, and that the Adjutant-General be authorized to loan the military camp equipage belonging to the State to all county and State encampments of our organization; and the petition has been referred to appropriate committees.

PAST COMMANDER CUSHMAN.

It will be remembered by comrades who were present at our last State encampment that a communication was read from Comrade Cushman of Post 1, relative to his status in the Department, with a protest against his being refused the honors due a past department commander. The whole matter was referred, diligent inquiry has been made relative thereto, and the result which has been arrived at will be laid before you for action; and the following report of the Judge Advocate will be a guide in your decision:—

BOSTON, Jan. 24, 1881.

JAMES F. MEECH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Comrade: In the matter of Comrade Austin S. Cushman, formerly commander of this department, I find by the papers in the case that he was not borne on the returns of the Post as a member, from July 1, 1871, to Jan. 21, 1880, and during that time paid no dues, and was charged with none on the Quartermaster's books, and was treated as a dropped member. Whether actually dropped or not, the Post records fail to show, and the records filed with the Assistant Adjutant-General are destroyed by fire. Although I am of the opinion that on the Post reinstating the comrade on Jan. 21, 1880, he became fully invested with his honors and privileges as a Past Department Commander, I think it best that the opinion of the National Encampment, and legislation, if necessary, be asked, to fully restore such rights as a past department commander is by the laws of our Order entitled to.

I, therefore, respectfully recommend that the matter be brought before the Department Convention, with a view to further action therein, if that Convention shall deem it proper.

Yours, in F., C., and L.,

GILES H. RICH,
Judge Advocate.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

The relationship of the "Woman's State Relief Corps" to our organization was the subject of much debate at our last Encampment. Having since that time become more familiar with its objects and of the desire of its members generally to be "help-meets" and upon consultation with its principal officers, having been convinced that there was no desire on the part of a large portion of its officers to have attached to the association any name which would interfere with the constitution or by-laws of our organization, and believing that its object is from a conscientious desire to aid us in our work of charity, and not from selfish motives; knowing that in its ranks are ladies who *sorely* suffered by the sacrifices which they made for loved ones while in the camp or on the battlefield, while years have not effaced from their memories the effect the war had on them as individuals, and that the old-time sympathy is still extended to our unfortunate comrades, I give the Association my sincere and cordial support; but it is as a separate and distinct organization. It is for us to guard with jealous care our name, and see to it that no wedge, however small, shall find an entrance which may in time sever the bond which links the old soldiers and sailors together, and no organization sit officially at our board which may in time practically eat our own flesh. So I respectfully commend to your sympathies, aid, and encouragement the "Woman's State Relief Corps" without the Grand Army of the Republic.

SUFFOLK COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Having derived much satisfaction and pleasure in reading reports from various Posts relative to the observance of Memorial Day in their respective localities, and the increased interest manifested by the citizens, particularly in country towns, in assistance rendered our comrades in fidelity to the memory of their dead — yet knowing that in the hurry and bustle incident to our large cities or towns, especially where two or more Posts are situated, the ceremonies incident to that day were almost unheeded, except by those who were interested, it gave me much pleasure to see in some of the newspapers published in this city that a movement was being inaugurated by the Suffolk County Posts to unite on that day, and by combined effort so arrange the day's proceedings that every person would be made to feel and know that the living soldier and sailor, jealous of his rights and the glorious memories of the past, was not entirely merged into the citizen, and there were some who had not forgotten the dead. In other Departments, New York especially, it is the day of the year. Human nature is so constituted that a thing is soon forgotten by the public which is of special interest only to individuals; and if there is

any organization on the face of God's earth which deserves — aye, and should demand — public recognition, it is the Grand Army of the Republic, and especially on that day. If it cannot be done in any other way, let “pomp and circumstance” be brought in to attract the attention of the old and remind the younger generations that by such men as you and our comrades this Nation was preserved to them as a goodly heritage. I trust the day soon will come when by a legislative enactment the day shall be made a legal holiday, and unsympathizers be made to feel, if in no other way than by their pockets, — for, unfortunately, that is the place where some men's brains are located, — that there is something due to those men who were instrumental in causing the financial prosperity which now blesses an undivided land.

CAMP-FIRES, ETC.

“In unity there is strength” is an adage as true today as when written; and the closer we can get in companionship, the greater will be our interest in each other, of wider extent our power, and the longer continued our sympathy one with another. Words cannot convey to you the pleasure by me received when visiting the various country Post encampments. We all need such gatherings in which “to fight our battles o'er again” and “show how fields were won.” The old gray-head is a boy again, and the old camp joke and merriment send the blood coursing through his veins; scenes almost forgotten come back; comrades are met whose faces had almost faded from memory; camp life, with all its joys and sorrows, comes crowding back to find that place in our hearts over which fifteen years had almost drawn the veil of forgetfulness. I hope the day is not far distant when our usual avocations may be laid aside, and for a few days the whole Department camp together, as we did of old, there renewing our pledge of faithfulness to each other, amid scenes somewhat akin to those “in the days when we went soldiering,” a long time ago.

A DEPARTMENT UNIFORM.

I feel that now I am to touch upon a matter concerning which there is much difference of opinion, and various reasons are given why no action should be taken by the Department, but the whole subject be left with individual Posts; but so far as I am concerned, I understandingly and conscientiously say there is no one thing which will be more advantageous to our organization, and of interest to those without, in my opinion, than a uniform for the whole Department. We are a semi-military organization; we all have worn the blue, and many of those who would now turn up their noses at the sight of a brass button, twenty years ago were rejoiced to see them — on some other person. Those who know me better than you will testify that I am not a lover

of fuss and feathers, or display. But let your own reason put the question, Does, or does not, any organization feel more pride in its out-door parade if the members are in uniformity of appearance, rather than in shades of motley hue? Does it not bind them closer together? There is such a thing as corps pride, and none can deny it. A comrade, whose acquaintance I very much value, objected to wearing a button, because he might be taken for a uniformed corporation employee. When his head gets as gray as mine, he'll care very little what he's taken for, so long as he knows what he is himself. All other organizations have their distinct dress. Who on God's footstool has a better right to the blue and the brass than the old soldier and sailor? Who better can afford to let others laugh than he whose heart, within the folds of blue, beats for his country's flag, and within it whose blood was shed for its defense? Comrades, cherish with pride the memory of the old worn and faded blouse, and whatever will keep its memory green, that nourish in your breast, even if you are taken for other than you are! What matters it? Your uniform means something, and the whole story in ages cannot be told. Some will say that a very large majority of our comrades are poor men as to worldly goods and can ill afford the expense. There is no necessity that a uniform should be expensive; and I doubt not that if comrades should so determine, that some simple yet effective habiliment could be devised, which would receive the approbation of all comrades and greatly add to the effectiveness of our organization.

DUTY OF PAST OFFICERS.

When I had the honor to serve you in the capacity of Junior and Senior Vice-Commander, I officially, as a Deputy Inspector, visited many Posts, and I was at times very much surprised at the slim attendance. I found that a few kept up an active interest, and generally were prompt in their attendance at Post meeting. Upon inquiry as to the cause, I frequently heard the complaint that Post officers seemed to lose their interest as soon as the official chair was vacated. "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump"; and I would recommend to the careful consideration of all who thus are spoken of, to "think on these things," and ask themselves if they are not partly to blame for their comrades' non-attendance, and see to it that the charge, so often heard, that they step from the chair out of doors, does not become the cause of so much complaint. There are many Posts in the Department where, owing to long distances, comrades are obliged so to travel in order to attend meetings that from the nature of things it is almost impossible to insure a prompt and full attendance.

Would it not be well in such cases for monthly meetings to be held and a strong effort made for a full presence? I am aware that we all crave novelty and excitement, and that week after week, nothing but the form of the week before is, to use a common expression, gone through with; and it becomes wearisome and seemingly hardly worth the while to travel much distance for. In some of our Posts, where the members are scattered over quite an extent of territory, an effort is made to have an agreeable social evening after the close of the regular meeting, by debates, literary or musical entertainments, each one exerting himself to amuse, entertain, or instruct. I mentally, now, see such a Post; and it is one of the most flourishing in our Department, and some of its comrades travel miles, no matter what the weather may be, in order to enjoy the companionship and entertainment provided for them. Nothing can be accomplished without thought and labor; and these Posts which, Micawber-like, are waiting for something to turn up, must not be surprised if they soon are numbered among "the things that were." The tie that binds us together is no common one, but one which we should all strive to strengthen in the years to come, lest when too late we think what "might have been."

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS.

I am sorry to say, relative to the proposition to print the doings of our annual Encampment, as is done by most of the other Departments, there was not such interest manifested by the Posts at large in their application for copies, as warranted the expenditure. The time will surely come when it will be a matter of regret, and I hope we shall at some time provide a way by which that desired result may be accomplished.

SOLDIERS' HOME.

The Trustees of the Soldiers' Home Association have completed the purchase of that property formerly known as the "Highland Park Hotel," situated in Chelsea, subject to certain conditions. Although not so conversant with the subject matter as my predecessor, having only within a short time been elected as one of the trustees, yet, as a matter probably of great interest to you, it gives me pleasure to announce the fact, and also state that arrangements are being made for a fair, during the next fall or winter months, in aid of the fund to be provided for the suitable maintenance of the same.

It is not necessary for me to appeal to your sympathies or your reason in order to enlist your personal interest toward the successful issue of the proposed project; and I feel that when the proper time comes, with heart and hands you will be ready, as

will all comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, to add their influence and their personal work, that the "Home" may be, for all needy and homeless old comrades within or without our ranks, an asylum free from the shadow or taint of town or city dependence, and where, in peace and quietness, they will escape any odium which might otherwise be attached to them in their misfortune.

POST AND DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

In my official connection with you, experience has taught me that great care should be exercised in the selection of Post and Department officers who have the time and inclination to attend to the duties incumbent upon their position. Where one fails in his duty another has added burdens; for no organization can "run itself"—and ours, apparently with new life infused into its veins, requires much thought, time, and labor for the successful conduct of its affairs. I have been fortunate that your selection of officers to aid me in my duties has made them comparatively light; and all these I desire, here in your presence, to sincerely thank for the uniform kindness and assistance I have received from them. To the members of my personal staff I am under great obligations for their faithful performance of duties, their cheerful and pleasant intercourse.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

I congratulate you and myself that we were so fortunate as to be able to retain the services of the Assistant Adjutant-General, occupying a position which requires peculiar natural endowments for its successful conduct: those qualifications to a very large extent are embodied in him who has been our right-hand man so many years. Comrades, not as a meaningless compliment, it is the sincere utterance of my heart, when in your presence I publicly thank him for his valuable assistance to you and to me. None but those who are officially brought into close contact with the multifarious duties appertaining to that position can have any idea of its extent and the very many annoyances to which he is subjected. Year by year does the official business accumulate; and such is our Department reputation that we are looked to by other departments as counsel and as guide. It will be remembered that at our last Encampment a vote (if I remember aright), in the form of a request, was passed, that the Headquarters office should always be open and the Assistant Adjutant-General should not be detailed for inspection duty; firmly believing that such should be the case, and being determined in my own mind, upon entering the duties appertaining to my position, that such should be an enforced rule. Circumstances since have forcibly reminded me of the old Scotch saying, "The plans of

mice and men gang aft agley." In consultation with the Department Inspector, it was found, under existing circumstances, that a thorough inspection of Posts was simply impossible without the assistance of the Assistant Adjutant-General. I am still of the opinion that such a state of things should not exist.

As I before have said, the work incidental to the office is yearly assuming larger proportions; and I respectfully recommend to my successor in office that, in addition to the usual staff, aides be selected with the understanding that the position is not one of honor alone, but with it there must be work, and a portion of that work as assistant inspector, if called upon by the Department Inspector. There is a feeling among comrades that Department officers and others in official positions do not render the aid, sympathy, and encouragement which their presence in Post rooms would give; but comrades should bear in mind that time and money are absolutely essential for this work, and that when visits are made, it is at times with much inconvenience. It is very easy to say "Why don't you come and see us"—not as easy to go. Posts must rely upon themselves, be thoroughly in earnest, at all times prepared for any official work or inspection. Many times have I heard the question, "When is the Inspector coming? We want to be ready for him." Eternal work is the price of success, and there must be interest in that work, or lamentable failure is the result.

I would further respectfully recommend that the Assistant Adjutant-General be authorized to spend a sum not exceeding two hundred dollars for clerk hire—the additional expense would hardly be felt, by slight requisite increase in the per capita tax. My own observation in the office has convinced me that the Department would be very much the gainer by such an addition to the personnel of the office. It is for you, however, to make such disposition of this and other matters recommended as your judgment may determine.

For three successive years, unsolicited by me, comrades have placed me in official positions, which I consider the highest honors of my life. Words cannot express my gratitude to them for these manifestations of confidence and esteem. The unvarying kindnesses which I have received from their lips and hearts will be forever green in my memory. Connected with no other organization but ours, having no social, financial, or political ambition to gratify, I laid before our altar a sincere desire to serve faithfully and as well as my capacity would allow: which, combined with my entire belief in the principles of this brotherhood, my strong interest in its welfare, my reverence for all who wore the blue in "the times that tried men's souls" (looking upon all those who from pure and patriotic motives offered their lives that the nation might live as worthy to stand by the side of the noblest of the

land — aye, even in the presence of the Almighty God), I invoked all the power I possessed. Although my term of service compared with many of yours was but short,—from circumstances beyond my control,—my heart by day and night was with you, rejoicing in your victories, with you suffering in defeat. Time had not lessened my love and regard for you, and so I took upon myself your trust. My shortcomings have been many: there have been errors; but they were of the head, not of the heart.

It has been said, “Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown”; but, Comrades, your smiles and cheering words have made “my yoke easy, and my burden light.” I claim no prophetic eye; but we can judge the future by the past. In the last two years a large accession has been made to our ranks, and all that now is needed is personal work. The time will come, if we so determine, all old desired comrades will again, shoulder to shoulder, march on; not, we hope, with deadly weapons in their hands, but with the words, Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty inscribed upon their banners, illuminating their pathway with that light which can only come from a brotherhood cemented together by such ties as ours—a charity that “vaunteth not itself,” a loyalty as true to the old flag as in the days of old, and a love for it as warm as was the life-blood poured out in its defense.

Comrades, the trust you gave to me will soon be placed in other hands. He whom you so honor may do more than I have been able to accomplish for “the good of the Order”; but I will not yield to him or to any other comrade a greater sympathy with, or a more intense love for, the Grand Army of the Republic, its motives, your welfare, and its prosperity, than have I. With a heart overflowing with gratitude for the great compliments and honors by you shown to me, I shall take with me into the ranks a stronger love than ever for your companionship, and, if possible, a more enthusiastic devotion to the principles of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Assistant Adjutant-General announced that the morning session of the Encampment on the 27th would be held in the Meionaon, Tremont Temple, No. 78 Tremont Street. The Assistant Adjutant-General, in behalf of the Committee on Credentials, reported that Post 135 of Shrewsbury had made complete returns with the exception of surgeon’s report, Form F; but through a misunderstanding with the Post surgeon, the Post Commander, who was present, had been unable to obtain his report. On motion of Comrade E. W. Thompson of Post 42, it was voted that the Commander of Post 135 be admitted.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

BOSTON, Jan. 26, 1881.

Commander and Comrades of the Department :

I have the honor to present herewith my fifth annual report of transactions at Headquarters for the year 1880, which has been one remarkable for our organization in many ways, but more especially for the lively interest manifested by men outside, as well as the comrades in the association.

There never has been, since I have been at the Headquarters, a time when there has been so much real enthusiasm shown by the comrades ; and this, as of necessity it must, has been to a great degree contagious ; and there have been many anxious inquiries as to the merits of the Grand Army of the Republic, which have been followed by the admission to our ranks of a large number of comrades who have become satisfied that as long as they permitted themselves to remain aloof from us their lives were incomplete ; or, to use a forcible, if not eloquent, term of the times, they were fearful lest they might "get left."

The following figures will show the standing of the Department as compared with one year ago :—

Number of Posts, Dec. 31, 1879	133
“ Comrades reported in good standing same date, ...	8,193
“ Posts Dec. 31, 1880	129
“ Comrades in good standing as far as reported, same date	8,868
An actual gain so far as reported for 1880	675

Five Posts have surrendered their charters during the year, viz. :—

Post 14	Woodville.
“ 36	Amherst.
“ 80	South Hadley.
“ 99	West Warren.
“ 125	South Boston.

With the exception of the last named, these were all small Posts, averaging less than fifteen comrades each, and nearly all of them have joined neighboring Posts by transfer.

There has been but one Post organized during the year, viz. :—

Post 2	South Boston.
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The members of this Post being many of the former comrades of Post 125, I think I may say, without fear of contradiction, that Post 2 will compare favorably with any Post in the Department, all things considered. There are a number of applications for charters out, and I am satisfied that if a comparatively thorough canvass of the Commonwealth was made, it would result in the

organization of a number of Posts. At least such has been the result in other States; and when we consider that many of the larger towns in the Commonwealth have no branch of our association, it must also be true that they have their proportionate number of veterans.

The following detailed changes have taken place in the membership of the Posts comprising the Department during the year, from Oct. 1, 1879, to Oct. 1, 1880:—

Number of comrades admitted by muster-in . . .	1,194
“ “ “ transfer . . .	104
“ “ “ reinstatement . . .	1,256
Total gain	2,554
Number of comrades lost by death	111
“ “ “ honorable discharge	56
“ “ “ transfer	142
“ “ “ suspension	1,337
Total loss	1,646
Excess of gains over losses	908
Number of rejections during the year	45

Generally the reports of Posts are made promptly and correctly; still there are a number of Posts that are delinquent in both the foregoing respects. I trust that all such will consider the admonition kindly, and remember that in a soldiers' organization the promptness and correctness of the old days should not be forgotten.

After another year's experience with our present system of suspending and dropping of members, as provided by Rules and Regulations, I am more firmly impressed that it is all wrong and is detrimental to the best interests of the Grand Army of the Republic. The Council of Administration will refer to this matter in their report, and I am satisfied that the plan they propose is or would be the correct solution of the whole difficulty.

By my last report there was a balance of \$32.65 remaining in the contingent fund.

During the year there have been many calls for assistance; and the demands have seemed to be so imperative that the above balance has been entirely expended. One case in particular under this head deserves mention, viz.: that of a man in the Union service during the war, who through misfortune and accident early in February last, became an inmate of the City Hospital in Boston, and died in that institution. As he had no relatives or friends to take charge of his body he foresaw that he must be buried at the

expense of the city; but before his death he requested that the Grand Army of the Republic take charge of his body if possible. Arrangements were made for his interment in the soldiers' lot at Mount Hope Cemetery; and on the 22d of February his wishes were complied with, a part of the expense being borne by the city, and the balance paid out of this fund. In referring to the importance of such a fund, it becomes my pleasant duty to say to you that within a few days I have been notified that a sum of money will be given at once in charge of the Assistant Adjutant-General, to be expended judiciously by him and placed where it will do the most good. The source whence this fund comes is not to be known, except it is contributed through the influence of E. W. Kinsley Post 113, Grand Army of the Republic, of this city. A donation of this character at this time is peculiarly appropriate, as the relief funds of the Boston Posts are very low, and many calls are thereby made upon Department Headquarters.

The year just closed has been a busy one with the Department officers; and at Headquarters, by my record of visitors, I find that we have had about a third more than in 1879; and the correspondence has been over one-fourth larger than the previous year: and if prompt service has not been rendered it has been from sheer inability, on account of the great stress of business.

In closing this report, as imperfect as it is, I have to again express to you as Commander, and the other officers of the Department, and to all comrades with whom I have been brought in contact, my most unqualified thanks for uniform kindness at all times and under all circumstances.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 25, 1880.

JAMES F. MEECH, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Comrade: I have the honor to submit the following report of the Assistant Quartermaster-General's department for the year ending Dec. 31, 1880:—

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand as per last report	\$154.38	
Dues received for fourth quarter, 1879	662.81	
“ “ “ first “ 1880	669.52	
“ “ “ second “ 1880	702.08	
“ “ “ third “ 1880	705.56	
Received for books and blanks	308.80	
“ “ badges	862.52	
“ “ sundries	70.50	
Total receipts		<u>\$4,136.15</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Salary of Assistant Adjutant-General, with \$100 extra for work of Assistant Quartermaster- General	\$1,300.00	
Dues to National Headquarters	511.98	
Office expenses: printing; rent, postage, etc.	939.36	
Supplies from National Headquarters	1,071.80	
Inspection expenses	212.66	
		<u>\$4,035.80</u>
As per vouchers Nos. 229, 231, 295, 353, 356, 397- 400, 402-412, 414-60.		
Excess of receipts over expenditures		<u>\$100.35</u>

ASSETS.

Due from Posts for dues (estimated)	\$712.00	
Due from Posts for sundries	97.35	
Books and blanks on hand	222.50	
Office furniture	175.00	
Colors	30.00	
Cash on hand	100.35	
Total assets		<u>\$1,337.20</u>

LIABILITIES.

Inspector's expenses	\$ 5.00	
National Headquarters, for dues	132.50	
National Headquarters, for supplies	616.75	
Total liabilities		<u>\$754.25</u>
Excess of assets over liabilities		<u>\$582 95</u>

E. T. RAYMOND,
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 25, 1881.

JAS. F. MEECH, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Comrade: As required by the Rules and Regulations, I herewith forward to you my annual report of the inspection of the Posts of this Department, together with a duplicate copy to be furnished to the Inspector-General of the National Encampment.

The Department at the present time consists of 129 Posts. Of this number 123 have been inspected. It is to be regretted that all were not visited, as required by the Regulations; but failure to arrange for meetings and other causes have necessitated the omission. Of the 123 Posts inspected, 30 are reported in excellent condition, 53 are reported in good condition, 37 are reported in fair condition, 3 are reported in poor condition.

The aggregate membership of these Posts at the time of inspection was 8,851, and that a definite idea may be had as to their relative strength I have classified them the same as in my last report.

There is one Post in this Department, Post 5 at Lynn, numbering 516 comrades.

Two Posts, Post 10 at Worcester and Post 34 at Salem, numbering between 300 and 350 comrades. One Post, 39 at Lawrence, of between 200 and 250 members.

Eight Posts, 150 to 200; twelve Posts, 100 to 150; eleven Posts, 75 to 100; thirty Posts, 50 to 75; forty-one Posts, 25 to 50; twelve Posts, 20 to 25; and five Posts numbering less than 20. By a review of the figures it will be seen that 59 Posts (9 less than last year) have a membership of less than 50.

The reports of the inspecting officers show a very great improvement in membership, interest and usefulness of the Posts in the Department over that of previous years, and with a very few exceptions their prospects for the future may be considered good.

In some of the smaller Posts, particularly in localities where the comrades are obliged to go two or three miles to attend a Post meeting, where the "muster-in" service is seldom performed, and where the prospects of an increase of membership are limited to a very small number, there is but little change from one year to another, except where a comrade dies or removes from the town; and there the loss is severely felt, and can in but few instances be repaired.

Attention is called to the condition of many of the Post charters, principally those issued in 1866 and 1867, and signed by Comrade A. S. Cushman as Department Commander.

With many of them it is difficult to decipher either the date of their issue or the names of the charter members, and with others, the printing and penmanship are completely obliterated. Some provision should be made, either by the issuing of new charters or by a reproduction of the old.

The adjutants' and quartermasters' departments are generally in very excellent condition; and as the Posts are indebted very largely to the faithfulness of these officers for the success they may attain, I trust I may be pardoned for suggesting that it would be the exercising of wise judgment to retain such officers

where they have proven themselves honest, capable, and efficient. I desire to again call attention to the fact that in some of the Posts the books of the quartermaster have not been audited, or in any way examined or certified as to their correctness.

The Rules and Regulations require the appointment of an auditing committee. This should be complied with by every Post. Errors are liable to occur even with the most careful and experienced accountant, and if discovered within a reasonable time could be easily rectified; but if allowed to remain from one administration to another are liable to become serious, and, in many cases, result injuriously to the Post.

The attention of Post commanders has been called to this omission, and it is to be hoped that in all instances where it exists it will be immediately corrected.

That the work of the Ritual as presented at the last meeting of the Department might be more clearly understood, and its adoption become general throughout the Department, it was thought best to exemplify the same at convenient points west of Boston, accessible to the largest number of Posts. Accordingly orders were issued from Department Headquarters, notifying the Posts designated to perform the work, and extending an invitation to all who desired to witness its presentation.

On the evening of May 11 I visited Post 13 at Brockton, where the first meeting was held. There were present officers and comrades from South Easton, Weymouth, Abington, Rockland, South Abington, Foxboro, Randolph, Pembroke, South Scituate, Canton, and Hanson: fourteen Posts in all, represented by 115 comrades.

May 13 I was present at Fitchburg, where the same duty was performed by Post 19 of that city. Delegations from Posts at Ayer, Leominster, Clinton, Princeton, Westminster, Groton, and Gardner were present, to the number of 125 comrades.

May 18 I attended a similar meeting at Springfield, where Post 16 performed the work. There were present about 100 comrades, including representatives from Holyoke, Chicopee, and Ware.

May 20 I visited Post 10 at Worcester. The Posts represented at this meeting were from Grafton, Oxford, West Boylston, Spencer, North Brookfield, Webster, Warren, Holden, Leicester, Shrewsbury, and Rutland, aggregating 140 comrades. These meetings were generally attended by the officers of the Posts notified, and from the very excellent manner in which the work has been rendered, I believe they will prove to be of especial benefit to the Department. I earnestly recommend that the delegates to the next National Convention be instructed to present such a regulation as will forbid any further change in the ceremony of muster-in; believing that, in this instance at least, imperfection is far better than a continual change.

There are 100 Posts that have a relief fund amounting in the aggregate to \$62,207.89, an increase over that of last year of \$5,343.51. They have disbursed during the year ending Sept. 30, 1880, \$19,291.77, or \$1,452.22 more than last year. The largest amount of the relief fund of any one Post in the Department is \$7,430.55, Post 58 at Weymouth having that amount.

The largest amount disbursed during the last year by any one Post was by Post 5 at Lynn, they having paid from their relief fund \$2,905.50.

There are twenty-one Posts that pay weekly benefits in cases of sickness or disability, averaging \$2.76 per week for a period ranging from six to sixteen weeks.

There are three Posts in the Department that own the buildings they occupy — Posts 6, 49, and 101.

There are three Posts that have a monument or memorial hall fund — Posts 39, 89, and 151.

There are 103 Posts uniformed with hat, cord, wreath, and belt, and twenty-six are without uniforms. The average initiatory fee of all the Posts in the Department is \$2.17. The average amount paid for yearly dues is \$2.61.

There are 651 muskets owned by ninety-eight Posts. The remaining Posts in the Department report none.

The entire expense to the Department for the yearly inspection is \$144.56. In mentioning this fact I will say that as the inspection is performed chiefly by the Department officers, the expense attending that duty depends greatly upon the location of those officers. In closing, I desire to thank all who have participated in the labors of inspection for the zeal and fidelity with which they have performed their duties, for the promptness with which they have made their returns, and for their willingness on every occasion to perform the work assigned them. To the Assistant Adjutant-General I feel particularly indebted for the kindness and courtesy he has always extended to me in my relations with the Department. And finally, with the hope that as we grow older our friendship for each other may grow stronger and our regard for the noble association of which we form a part may continue to strengthen and finally ripen into the stronger bonds of love,

I am, fraternally yours,

GEO. W. CREASEY,
Department Inspector.

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE.

Boston, Jan. 26, 1881.

To the Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts.

Comrades: In accordance with the provisions of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, I have the

honor of submitting to the Department Encampment the following report of the operations of my department:—

The proceedings of the courts-martial have been referred to me, and in each case I have found formal errors of so grave a character that I have felt obliged to recommend to the Department Commander that the proceedings and findings be disproved.

I have been called upon for decisions in several cases, which I think are of no general interest to the Encampment. They have been accepted by the Commander and acquiesced in by the parties directly interested.

Respectfully submitted, in F., C., and L.,

GILES H. RICH,
Judge Advocate.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

BOSTON, Jan. 26, 1881.

Commander and Comrades:

My report for the past year will be necessarily a very brief one. The number of wounded men not previously reported, or who have joined the organization during the year, is 154. Three years ago much time and labor were expended in collecting these statistics, which may possibly be of service to future historians, but probably of little use to the men chiefly concerned.

So far as I can ascertain from the surgeons of Posts, but few comrades report to their own surgeon when sick; and so it is impossible to collect the necessary data for a general report. It would be a matter of great interest if we could find out the percentage of sick men in the Posts of Massachusetts, the number of days in the year that each man was prevented from working by reason of sickness, and the percentage of deaths during the year. We also need more detailed reports of the amount expended by each Post for comrades disabled by wounds or disease.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. S. BROWN, M.D.,
Medical Director.

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN.

BOSTON, Jan. 26, 1881.

Commander, Comrades: In presenting to you my second annual report, as Chaplain of the Department, I do it with gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His sparing mercies to each member of the Department. None of us have fallen by the way, but are present tonight in the full enjoyment of good health to meet our comrades in Department Convention. I have no evil report to bring of your dealings towards me. In all my intercourse

with you, from you, Commander, down to him who holds the lowest rank in any Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, I have received tonight naught but kindness and acts of courtesy. So that, notwithstanding the hardships of army life, the privations and difficulties under which we passed to make our country what it is, I am proud to have become associated with such a noble body of men as are present tonight, banded together for the purpose, not of a mutual admiration society, but of doing for the widows and orphans of those who fell in our holy cause what was promised should be done for you, should you fall by disease or be disabled by the bullet of the enemy. Others may have forgotten their pledges to the suffering ones; but a true soldier and comrade of the Grand Army, never. Others may fare sumptuously every day, and be decked in purple and fine linen, and be unmindful of the tears of the widow and the hungry orphan; but you, comrades, from your hard-earned pittance, have carried comfort and joy to the widow and her beloved children. You, from the benevolence of your heart, see that no soldiers lie in a pauper's grave. Comrades, continue in the good work while life shall last; then may others take up the good work commenced by you, until you are laid gently but reverently among the honored dead. We live in a noble State—our Governor a noble man, who would leave nothing undone that could be done consistently for the Grand Army of the Republic.

God bless the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!

Commander and Comrades, in regard to the manner of carrying out the services of Memorial Day, I have only to say, let an earnest effort be made this year to make it, as in most other States, a legal holiday; for scores and hundreds of our comrades are unable to unite with us who would gladly do so. But the workshop is open, and they can obtain no permission to be absent, and are therefore deprived from attending this delightful service. There are a large number of cities and towns in Massachusetts. Memorial Day services are carried out perhaps not so extensively, and with such pomp and grandeur, as in some other States; but nobly is the work done—with simplicity, beauty, and solemnity. Some of your Posts represent the States by the same number of young ladies dressed in white, bearing wreaths and flowers, who form a part of the procession; others take in the sons of soldiers and sailors to form part of the parade, and thus enable them to take up the work of their fathers—and may do it faithfully when you and I have gone to our reward. But to prescribe a rule, suitable to all Posts alike, on that day, is a work indeed in which I should not dare to meddle. Each Post knows best its own people. It has perhaps studied the best method to carry it out. There I would leave, knowing all the circumstances. Make the day of all others sacred as the Christian Sabbath, so that a divine

solemnity may rest upon us, and with a thankful heart for the preservation of our own lives, go forth to strew the graves of our beloved comrades with the fairest flowers of earth, and the recollection that you and I shall soon lie with them until the resurrection of the dead.

Now, although I would not meddle with your method of duty on Memorial Day, I would suggest that we do everything in our power to discourage profanity. Did you ever happen to call at the office of the Assistant Adjutant-General, perhaps after coming some distance from the country to see him on special business belonging to your Post, — sometimes two or three of you together, — and find upon a card, Gone to such a place on business; will be back tomorrow, or perhaps a day or two hence? Do you recollect how pleasant it was? Did you ever hear any words that grated harshly upon your ears? Don't you remember some rather tall swearing? Let me propose a remedy. The office of the Assistant Adjutant-General should never be closed during office hours. It is the property of the Posts in this Department, and you should always have access to it, if it be only for a moment's rest after ascending two flights of stairs. Now, in my opinion, there is a large amount of work that could be done outside the office for the various Posts, besides the immense work of inspection placed upon the Adjutant-General in the fall of the year. Now, the remedy: give him an assistant, a young man of intelligence who can transact business with you and be of some service to him and to us, when he shall be away from the office, allowing him to give even more time to the various Posts of this Department.

Thus, Commander and Comrades, shall we be doing a good work, stopping this extra profanity, having the office always open to receive us when we call on business, and the Asst. Adjt.-Gen. devoting more time to the general interest in this Department.

In conclusion, Commander and Comrades, I have to report that but little progress has been made in spiritual things during the past year. But the spiritual condition of the Department, of course, by virtue of his office, is committed to the Department chaplain; and he, believing that man's will decides what he shall be, good or bad, unaided by the Holy Spirit, feels it right to pray that the Divine influence may rest upon each member of the Grand Army, so that he may be prosperous in all his relations of life, preserved from evil, rescued from danger, and saved in the hour of affliction and death. Two grand results have been achieved during the year, and that in answer to prayer. You, Commander, are here tonight: thank God for his preserving care over you. You have labored faithfully and done noble work for the Department during the year; but, sir, you might have been in another world but for the interposition of Divine Providence in answer to prayer. Most of you comrades present, I presume, are

acquainted with the fact that the Commander is a brave sailor, as well as a true and gallant soldier; and you may find him in the summer season in his beautiful yacht coasting in the bays and rivers of our and adjoining States. But one day near the early fall, while enjoying this great pleasure to the full, unexpectedly and in a moment a whirlwind came upon the craft. It was turned in an instant in an opposite direction. There was danger. All on board were filled with fear and consternation. But quick as thought the master hand of the Commander was upon the helm. The vessel turned its course; all hands were saved. And you, sir, are here tonight, I know, but in answer to prayer.

The Assistant Adjutant-General: he is a grand man we all love; but just think of his condition one year ago tonight. True, he had a lovely wife whom any man might have been proud to call his own. But they were childless and alone. We all pitied him. Just think of it! all his real estate and personal property liable at their decease to go to minor relatives, unless in the generosity of his nature he had left it by will to found a soldiers' home for childless ones like himself. In this wretched condition God pitied him; and in answer to prayer, faith, and some work, on a lovely morning, June 8, 1880, there was ushered into this world a lovely boy, Charles Raymond Meech. Long may he live to be a blessing to his parents in the full fruitage of life, and in the hour of their death receive from them their benediction, and so be a noble son of a noble sire.

And you, Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, may Heaven's blessing rest upon you in life, in death, and then forevermore!

Yours in F., C., and L.,

JOHN W. LEE,
Department Chaplain.

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 26, 1881.

Commander and Comrades:

Conformably to the provisions of the Rules and Regulations the Council of Administration respectfully submits the following as its report of the conduct and condition of the Department during the past official year. The Council has held but four regular and four special meetings, no larger number having been required by its affairs; the inspection duty called for from its members, also, as in former years, rendering it undesirable to impose any but imperative meetings.

The Council has critically examined the accounts of the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Department, and find them correct and exceedingly well kept. The total receipts for the year have been \$4,136.15, the current expenses having been \$4,035.08, as accounted for by vouchers duly approved by the Auditing Committee.

a. The recommendation of the Council of last year in regard to the continuance of the present excellent system of inspection is renewed, with added cordiality that another year of experience therein properly brings; and it also renews with especial emphasis the recommendation that only comrades be elected to the executive offices of the Department whose past record therein and personal assurance give guaranty of their performance of the duties of the offices assigned to them.

b. The Council especially recommend that this Convention instruct its delegates to the National Encampment to secure, if possible, the repeal of Sections 3 and 4, Article IV., Chapter V., of Rules and Regulations, and the insertion in place thereof a new section to read as follows: "If a comrade shall be one year in arrears in payment of his dues he may be dropped from the rolls," etc., with proper provisions for remission, reinstatement, etc.

c. The following is also submitted as the recommendation of the Council upon the question of a State field encampment referred by the last Department Convention to its consideration.

The Assistant Adjutant-General has corresponded with the Departments of New Jersey, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and personally visited the one at Gettysburg, Pa., as well as the two camps within our own State; and from all information obtained, the expense attending the same has generally exceeded the receipts, leaving a deficit for some one to meet.

A reunion of all the members of "our great association" at some central point would be full of interest to every Grand Army man; but the difficulty that presents itself is, that judging from the attendance at Tyng's Island and Brant Rock, the percentage of Grand Army men would be small, and it would be an encampment only in name. One serious objection would be the expense of camp equipage; and the Council is of the opinion that no further action should be taken until we can be assured of the free use of grounds and tents belonging to the State.

d. The constantly increasing labor, both in the office and in the necessary visiting of Posts throughout the Department, which has fallen upon the Assistant Adjutant-General, has attracted the attention of the Council, as indeed it cannot fail to have done that of the comrades, especially those having frequent business with Headquarters.

This Department being widely recognized as efficient and in some degree as an authority and guide, the amount of work exacted of the Assistant Adjutant-General in response to calls for information, etc., from outside our own Department, is most noticeable. It is agreed by all that this field work can be done to best advantage by no one so well as by the Assistant Adjutant-General. But if he attends to it—and it is vital to the interests of our Order—the work at Headquarters must suffer, unless such demands upon the time and health of the Assistant Adjutant-General are made as no one would wish to make.

The Council coincides, therefore, fully and with emphasis, in the recommendation of Past Department Commander Adams, and of the Council last year, in recommending that provision for additional clerk hire at Headquarters be made, and recommend that the sum of \$200 be paid to the Assistant Adjutant-General to secure such.

The gain in the sum total of the relief funds of the Posts, at the same time that their disbursements have also increased, is a matter of much satisfaction; and the general vigor of the Department is as grateful to the Council to note as for the comrades to know.

Perhaps, with the exception of the small number of deaths and of appeals to the Judge Advocate's department occurring during the year, no matter commands the congratulations of the Council so warmly to all the comrades of the Department as the accomplished purchase of property, at great advantage, for a soldiers' home for this Department; and the promise of its future can hardly fail of the warmest interest in the heart of every comrade of the Grand Army.

The most cordial thanks of the Council it desires to express in full measure to the Assistant Adjutant-General, for the constant and ready aid he has so efficiently rendered its labors and its members. And it affords sincere pleasure to testify to the harmony and good fellowship which have at all times existed between the retiring Commander and his coadjutors and the Council in their official and personal intercourse. That the labors of the Commander in behalf of the Department have been untiring and zealous as well as efficient, the personal esteem in which he is universally held and the good order of the Department better than any encomiums testify. The Council extends to him its most hearty wishes for long life, health, and happiness.

That the Grand Army is held in higher regard than ever, that the principles for which it stands grow hourly more secure, that its own power for usefulness and its own self-respect are growing greater, is, in the opinion of the Council, the best proof that its work of another year, now gone, has been well done, and the highest gain which it may announce and congratulate you upon.

All of which is respectfully submitted, in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

AZEL AMES, JR.,
JOHN F. BRUCE,
JOHN SCATES,
CHARLES A. STOTT,
BENJ. A. BRIDGES,
Council of Administration.

The reports of the Department officers having all been presented, on motion of Comrade George H. Patch of Post 142, it was voted, That the address of the Department Commander and the report of the Council of Administration be laid on the table, and the reports of the other officers be accepted and placed on file.

Comrade John S. Fay of Post 43 moved, That a committee of nine be appointed by the Commander to nominate candidates for Council of Administration and delegates and alternates to National Encampment. An amendment was offered by Comrade J. P. Maxfield of Post 42, that two committees of nine each be appointed by the Commander, one committee to nominate candidates for Council of Administration, and the other committee to nominate delegates and alternates to National Encampment.

The vote on the amendment being doubted, a count was had, seventy-nine voting in favor, and ninety-four against; and the amendment was declared lost.

The original question being called for, it was declared carried, and the Commander appointed the following committee:—

John S. Fay of Post 43, C. F. Brayton of Post 7, John G. B. Adams of Post 5, O. F. Douglas of Post 46, George W. Creasey of Post 49, W. E. Henry of Post 19, Everett E. Austin of Post 34, Channcey Morse of Post 70, J. B. Lamb of Post 10.

Comrade Azel Ames, Jr., of the Council of Administration, moved, and it was voted, That the address of the Department Commander be taken from the table and referred to a committee of nine, to be appointed by the Commander, who shall consider the various recommendations and suggestions contained therein, and report as early as possible tomorrow.

The Commander appointed the following committee:—

Azel Ames, Jr., of Post 12, John D. Billings of Post 94, Charles D. Nash of Post 78, E. G. W. Cartwright of Post 47, George M. Fiske of Post 62, L. F. Currier of Post 122, John T. Wilson of Post 148, George H. Patch of Post 142, Jerry Looby of Post 74.

Comrade John McDonough of Post 7 moved, That when this Encampment adjourn it be to meet at 10 o'clock A.M. tomorrow. Comrade A. N. Sampson of Post 113 moved an amendment, That the hour of meeting be 9 o'clock A.M.; and the motion as amended was adopted.

Comrade George W. Powers of Post 15 announced that he was instructed by the Post he represented to offer the following:—

Resolved, That the delegates from Post 15 be instructed to present to the Department Convention a resolution that the delegates from this Department to the National Encampment bring before that body a motion to so amend the Ritual as to do away with all blindfolding in the muster-in service.

Comrade John D. Billings of Post 94 offered the following:—

Resolved, That the delegates from this Department to the next National Encampment be instructed to secure such legislation as will leave it optional with Departments as to what "tactics" they shall use.

On motion of Comrade George S. Merrill of Post 39 it was voted that the foregoing resolutions be referred to the Committee on Commander's Address.

Comrade John G. B. Adams of Post 5 moved, That the report of the Council of Administration be taken from the table, and that the several recommendations contained therein be read and acted on separately. Carried.

Comrade Azel Ames, Jr., of the Council read the recommendations (see report of the Council of Administration, paragraphs *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d*), and on motion of Comrade Adams each and all of the recommendations were adopted.

At 9.45 P.M. the Encampment adjourned, to meet at the Meionaon at 9 A.M., Thursday, 27th inst.

After adjournment, the officers of John A. Andrew Post 15, G.A.R., took possession of the hall and exemplified the work of the Order in a very satisfactory manner.

MEIONAON, TREMONT TEMPLE, 78 TREMONT ST.
BOSTON, Jan. 27, 1881.

Encampment assembled as per adjournment, and was called to order by Department Commander John A. Hawes; but it was not until 9.30 A.M. that a sufficient number were present to proceed to business.

Prayer was offered by Department Chaplain John W. Lee.

Comrade George L. Goodale of Post 66 stated that he had been informed that neighboring Departments were in session; and on his motion it was voted, That the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to send greeting by wire to the Departments of Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and Illinois.

Reports of committees were next in order; but as they were not prepared to report, on motion of Comrade E. W. Thompson of Post 42, it was voted to give them further time.

Comrade Charles A. Stott of the Council offered the following, which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote: —

Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment are hereby tendered to the officers and comrades of John A. Andrew Post 15, G.A.R., for the correct and effective manner in which they exemplified the work of the Grand Army of the Republic last evening at Faneuil Hall, and also to the comrades who have so cheerfully performed guard and orderly duty for this meeting.

Comrade Charles B. Fox of Post 68, president of the Suffolk County Grand Army of the Republic Association, addressed the Encampment, and in behalf of said association invited the delegates to a banquet at Faneuil Hall at 2 P.M. The invitation was accepted without a count.

The next business being nomination of officers, Comrades Thomas H. Hill of Post 33, and George W. Creasey of Post 49, were nominated for Department Commander.

The foregoing candidates were seconded and endorsed by Comrades Charles A. Stott and J. P. Maxfield of Post 42, Azel Ames, Jr., of Post 12 Charles E. Trow of Post 100, Henry W. Johnson of Post 134, John G. B. Adams of Post 5, George S. Merrill of Post 39, and others.

The Assistant Adjutant-General reported for the Committee on Credentials as follows: —

Whole number of Comrades entitled to seats	
in this Encampment, ...	311
Number of Comrades present, ...	246
Divided as follows:	
Department Officers, ...	11
Past Department Commanders, ...	3
Post Commanders, ...	77
Delegates, ...	155

Comrade George H. Patch of Post 142 moved, That we proceed to the election of Department officers, and that the Commander appoint a committee of three to receive, sort, and count ballots for all officers elected. A division of the question was called for, and it was voted that we proceed to the election of Department officers.

Comrade Joseph H. Gleason of Post 77 offered as a substitute for the last part of Comrade Patch's resolution, That the Commander appoint two committees of three each: the first committee to collect votes for Department Commander, the second committee to collect votes for Senior Vice Department Commander, and so on, alternately. The substitution was adopted, and the following comrades were appointed:—

First Committee: E. W. Thompson of Post 42, E. P. Simpson of Post 142, W. L. Coon of Post 12.

Second Committee: J. H. Gleason of Post 77, J. O. Smith of Post 16, F. P. Works of Post 51.

The next business being the election of Department Commander, a ballot was had and the committee retired.

On motion of Comrade George L. Goodale of Post 66, it was voted to defer voting for Senior Vice Department Commander until after the election of Department Commander.

Nominations for Senior Vice Department Commander being in order, Comrade John D. Billings of Post 94 placed in nomination Comrade Benjamin S. Lovell of Post 58, the present Junior Vice Department Commander. Remarks in reference to the election of the second officer of the Department were made by Comrade George W. Powers of Post 15, J. P. Maxfield of Post 42, and others.

The Department Commander read a letter from the secretary of a committee of the "Peirce Light Guard," Co. C, and the "Boston Light Infantry," Co. K, First Regiment Infantry, Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, regarding a fair to be held under their auspices in Boylston Hall, February 21 to 26, and inviting the co-operation of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The committee on ballot for Department Commander, having concluded their count, reported as follows:—

Whole number of votes	239
Necessary for a choice	120
J. Frank Dalton	8
Thomas H. Hill	86
George W. Creasey	145
	239

The Department Commander declared Comrade Creasey elected.

The next business being the election of Senior Vice Department Commander, Comrade George L. Goodale of Post 66 moved, That the Assistant Adjutant-General deposit one ballot for Thomas H. Hill of Post 33, for Senior Vice Department Commander. Objection being made, the motion was withdrawn. Comrade Goodale then nominated Comrade Thomas H. Hill of Post 33 for Senior Vice Department Commander. Comrade Hill declined to be a candidate, whereupon Comrade John D. Billings of Post 94 submitted a motion that the Assistant Adjutant-General cast one ballot for Comrade Benjamin S. Lovell of Post 58, for Senior Vice Department Commander. Objection being made, the motion was withdrawn and a ballot ordered.

After all had voted and the committee had retired, Comrade George H. Patch of Post 142 named for Junior Vice Department Commander Comrade Royal B. Wight of Post 63, Natick; Comrade Azel Ames, Jr., of Post 12 nominated Comrade William L. Baird of Post 5.

The Committee on Ballot for Senior Vice Department Commander reported as follows:—

Whole number of ballots cast	200
Necessary for a choice	101
John H. Dalton, Post 23	1
Theodore L. Kelly, " 15	2
George W. Powers, " 15	15
Thomas H. Hill, " 33	58
Benjamin S. Lovell, " 58	122
	198

Comrade Lovell was declared elected.

A ballot was at once ordered for Junior Vice Department Commander, and the committee reported the following result:—

Whole number of votes cast	218
Necessary for a choice	110
Richard F. Tobin had	3
William L. Baird had	93
Royal B. Wight had	122
	218

The Department Commander declared Comrade Wight elected.

Comrade John S. Fay of Post 43, chairman of the committee to nominate candidates for the Council of Administration and delegates and alternates to National Encampment, announced that he was prepared to report for that committee. Unanimous consent being given, the following names were reported : —

FOR COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

John Scates	Post 7, Boston.
Charles A. Stott	" 42, Lowell.
Benj. A. Bridges	" 6, Holliston.
William A. Sloane	" 37, Spencer.
William S. Frost	" 43, Marlboro.

FOR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

Delegate-at-large.

Thomas H. Hill	Post 33, Woburn.
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Delegates.

S. A. Barton	Post 5, Lynn.
George S. Evans	" 30, Cambridgeport.
John F. Bruce	" 19, Fitchburg.
Azel Ames, Jr.	" 12, Wakefield.
Andrew C. Stone	" 39, Lawrence.
Myron P. Walker	" 16, Springfield.
John R. Merritt	" 118, Swampscott.
Henry B. Peirce	" 73, Abington.

Alternate-at-large.

George F. Moore	Post 47, Haverhill.
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Alternates.

J. K. Churchill	Post 10, Worcester.
Charles F. Read	" 116, Gardner.
Charles D. Nash	" 78, So. Abington.
Freeman C. Luce	" 1, New Bedford.
C. W. C. Rhoades	" 26, Roxbury.
Henry B. Thayer	" 22, Milford.
George C. Joslin	" 2, So. Boston.
S. F. McClearn	" 82, Marblehead.
Frank McGraw	" 46, Fall River.

The report of the committee was accepted; and there being no objection the Assistant Adjutant-General deposited the entire list as reported by the committee, and the comrades therein named were declared elected.

Comrade John W. Lee of Post 11 was unanimously re-elected Department Chaplain, by the Assistant Adjutant-General depositing one ballot, as per motion of Comrade Henry W. Johnson of Post 134.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the Department Commander announced that they were prepared to report, whereupon Comrade Azel Ames, Jr., submitted the following:—

ENCAMPMENT DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R.,
BOSTON, Jan. 27, 1881.

Commander: The committee to whom was referred the Commander's address and the resolution offered by Comrade Powers of Post 15, on behalf of that Post, respectfully submits the following as its report:—

1. Upon the reference made by the Commander to his action in furtherance of the instructions of last year's Convention in petitioning the Legislature to make Memorial Day a legal holiday, your Committee think it advisable to suggest that to secure such action as is desired it would be of great advantage if the several Posts of the Department will individually join their petitions to that of the Commander; and they submit, in furtherance of this idea, the accompanying resolve:—

Resolved, That the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to prepare blanks of petitions to the Legislature in aid of the Commander's petition on Memorial Day, and forward the same to the Posts with the request that they should sign the same as numerously as possible, and return as speedily as may be to him for presentation to the General Court.

2. Upon that portion of the Commander's address relating to the status of the Woman's Relief Corps, your Committee submits the following resolve, as the embodiment of its recommendation:—

Resolved, That the Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R., recognizes in the Woman's Relief Corps an invaluable ally in its mission of Charity and Loyalty, and hails it as a noble band of Christian workers who, while not of the Grand Army of the Republic, are auxiliary to it.

3. Upon that portion of the Commander's address relating to a uniform for the Department, your Committee most earnestly endorses and emphasizes the recommendation of the Commander in this regard, and submits the following resolve:—

Resolved, That a committee of five, to which shall be joined the elective members of the Council of Administration, be appointed by the Commander, which shall take into consideration the whole subject of uniform for the Department, with instruction to report it at the next Department Convention.

4. Your Committee embraces the opportunity to as earnestly as possible bespeak the attention of all past Post officers to the most excellent recommendations of the Department Commander in regard to the duty of such officers in using their utmost endeavors to promote, by their habitual presence and labors, the highest welfare of the organization.

Upon that portion of the Commander's address relating to printing the proceedings of the Department Convention, your Committee submits the following resolve:—

Resolved, That the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to print 500 copies of the Proceedings of the Department Encampment, and distribute them among the Posts of the Department pro rata upon their membership.

5. Upon that portion of the Commander's address relating to the soldiers' home, your Committee earnestly bespeaks the most hearty and earnest co-operation of all the comrades of the Department, that this noble institution may become a successful earnest in our midst of our fidelity and fraternity.

6. Upon that portion of the Commander's address suggesting the advisability of increasing the per capita tax, your Committee recommends the passage of the following resolve:—

Resolved, That the per capita tax of this Department be increased to ten cents per quarter, provided that the delegates cannot obtain a reduction of one-half cent per capita per quarter in the tax now paid to National Headquarters.

Resolved, That the Delegates of this Department to the National Encampment be instructed to use all proper means to secure the reduction above named.

7. Upon that portion of the Commander's address relating to the use of tactics, your Committee recommends the passage of the following resolve:—

Resolved, That the Delegates to the National Encampment be instructed to secure, if possible, such action as will permit option on the part of Departments as to the tactics they will employ.

8. Upon the resolution of Post 15, bespeaking action by the Delegates of this Department to the National Encampment, your Committee reports that it considers action inadvisable.

(Signed)

AZEL AMES, Jr.,
JOHN D. BILLINGS,
G. M. FISKE,
L. F. CURRIER,
JOHN T. WILSON,
GEO. H. PATCH,
Committee.

At the conclusion of the reading, on motion of Comrade E. W. Thompson of Post 42, it was voted, That the report of the Committee be accepted, and the several recommendations be read and acted on separately.

The first recommendation was amended, on motion of Comrade Benjamin A. Bridges of Post 6, by the insertion of the following words: That the petition should be given to the representative of the district in which the Post is situated, to be presented by him to the Legislature, and the Post to notify the Assistant Adjutant-General that they have done so, together with the number of names secured, so that it will read as follows:—

Resolved, That the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to prepare blanks of petitions to the Legislature in aid of the Commander's petition on Memorial Day, and forward the same to the Posts, with the request that they will sign the same as numerously as possible; and that the petition should be given to the representative of the district in which the Post is situated, to be presented by him to the Legislature, and the Post to notify the Assistant Adjutant-General that they have done so, together with the number of names secured.

The 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th recommendations were adopted.

The Department Commander appointed the following special committee on uniforms, as provided in the third recommendation of the above report:—

John D. Billings of Post 94, Canton; C. W. Hastings of Post 58, Weymouth; S. A. Barton of Post 5, Lynn; D. W. Lewis of Post 121, Hyde Park; W. W. Woodbury of Post 139, Somerville.

The following resolution, submitted by Comrade George W. Powers of Post 15, was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the Commander of this Department be instructed to forward a memorial to the President and Congress of the United States, urging the immediate passage of such laws as shall be effectual in settling as speedily as possible the just claims of pensioners, and in preventing all fraudulent claims.

A vote of thanks to all retiring Department officers was passed.

Past Department Commander George S. Merrill installed the officers-elect who were present.

There being no further business to transact, the Encampment adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS.

SERIES OF 1880.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Feb. 4, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 1. }

I. Having been elected and installed as Commander of this Department for the ensuing year, I hereby assume the duties of the office.

Comrades :

Your attention is called to the renewed interest manifested in our ranks, by the large increase of membership the past year. Much remains to be done. Memories of the past should be kept green; our numbers enlarged; individual and earnest labor for the mustering-in of many honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, who now are not with us, should be our effort; and I confidently rely upon your aid that we may, in the Department, stand in the front as to numbers, as of old. In this connection I would recommend to each Post an immediate and systematic canvass of the city or town in which they are located, so that we may know how many, and who, are eligible to membership in our order.

II. The following comrades are announced as the Official Staff of the Department Commander, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly :

James F. Meech of Post 10, Worcester, Asst. Adjt.-Gen.
 Edward T. Raymond of Post 10, Worcester, Asst. Q.M.-Gen.
 George W. Creasey of Post 49, Newburyport, Inspector.
 Giles H. Rich of Post 26, Roxbury, Judge Advocate.
 Alfred C. Monroe of Post 13, Brockton, Chief Mustering Officer.

III. All official correspondence must be signed by Post Commanders, and addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General (at 53 Tremont St., room 3), whose office hours will be as heretofore.

IV. Instructions for Muster-in Service, together with new National Countersign, are herewith transmitted to all Posts in good standing that did not receive the same at the Department Encampment. After the countersign is read, the Key will be at once returned to these Headquarters.

By order of

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 NO. 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, March 10, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 2. }

I. A list of the officers elected at the Annual Encampment of this Department, held at Lynn, January 28 and 29, appears in the roster ac-

companying this order. Two rosters are forwarded to each Post, one to be filed with General Orders, the other is for the use of the Post commander.

II. The following comrades are appointed on the Staff of the Department Commander, and they will be obeyed and respected accordingly:—

AIDES-DE-CAMP.

Freeman C. Luce,	New Bedford	Augustus J. Hoitt,	Lynn
Charles F. Brayton,	Boston	E. D. Capron,	Springfield
Richard F. Tobin,	Cambridgeport	Charles J. Sadler,	Salem
William H. Hart,	Chelsea	William A. Sloane,	Spencer
Thomas E. Barker,	Malden	Frank McGraw,	Fall River
D. Smith Kimball,	Haverhill	William A. Linehan,	South Easton
T. J. Ames,	Leominster	E. P. Morton,	Webster
Royal B. Wight,	Natick	George L. Goodale,	Medford
A. H. Batchelor,	Millbury	E. T. Harvell,	Rockland
John C. Bosworth,	South Abington	W. W. Montgomery,	North Adams
W. R. Howes,	Hanover	John D. Billings,	Canton
F. M. Harrington,	Northboro	John F. Ridley,	Methuen
James E. Pierce,	Pepperell	David W. Lewis,	Hyde Park
E. P. Gibbs,	Athol	James H. Wade,	Revere
Henry W. Johnson,	Boston	E. S. Horton,	Attleboro

III. By vote of the Council of Administration,—to whom the matter was referred,—the question of printing the “Proceedings of the Department” for last year is hereby submitted to the Department. If three hundred (300) copies are ordered previous to April 1, they will be furnished at cost, viz.: twenty cents each. Requisition giving number of copies should be made on the inclosed card.

IV. A blank bond for Post quartermasters is herewith forwarded to each Post in this Department. This bond was drawn by the Judge Advocate, and has been approved by the Council of Administration. A strict compliance with Section I, Article VII., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, will be required.

V. The following Posts have surrendered their charters since January 1:—

C. C. Phillips	Post 14, Woodville.
E. M. Stanton	“ 36, Amherst.
Calvin Cutter	“ 99, West Warren.
N. B. Shurtleff, Jr.	“ 125, South Boston.

VI. A new Post has been organized in South Boston, to be known as Post 2, G.A.R., George A. Thayer, Commander.

By command of

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, March 25, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 3. }

I. General Orders No. 7, from National Headquarters, are herewith promulgated to this Department.

II. Special attention is called to the circular inclosed, regarding the death of William M. Cooper, Esq., the founder of the “Cooper Shop Volunteer Refreshment Saloon,” in Philadelphia, during the war of the Rebellion.

Endorsing the proposed action in its fullest sense, it is earnestly desired that the most hearty and prompt action be taken by the Posts of this Department. Contributions should be forwarded to John Taylor, Asst. Q.M.-Gen., Department of Pennsylvania, G.A.R., No. 218 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. A report of amount forwarded will be made to these Headquarters without delay.

III. Post No. 2 of this Department, having adopted the name of "Dahlgren," the same is hereby approved.

IV. Commanders of Posts should have a perfect understanding with their adjutants and quartermasters regarding *their* reports, which are due on the *first days* of the quarter. It is expected that a supply of Forms A and B will be received from National Headquarters in time to be forwarded to Posts prior to the 31st instant.

V. In view of the fact that the "thirtieth day of May" occurs on Sunday this year, and in compliance with Article XIV., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, Saturday, May 29, will be observed as Memorial Day by the Posts of this Department.

By command of

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3. }
April 30, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 4. }

Agreeable to the provisions of Article XIV. of Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, and to General Orders No. 8, C.S., from National Headquarters, Saturday, May 29, will this year be observed as Memorial Day.

The day will remind us that we are gradually approaching our last camping ground, there to join those of our former comrades who now "sleep the sleep that knows no waking," and over whose remains we are to place tokens of our remembrance.

Day by day

"Our hearts, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave";

and as the days of our earthly pilgrimage shorten, so does the sunshine of our companionship decrease. On this, the appointed day, with full ranks and hearts filled with memories of the past, let us fulfil our sacred obligations, and with loving hands on the graves or memorial tablets, place our offerings to the memory of our comrades who "have gone on before."

Post commanders will, through their committees, request the clergy of all denominations to hold appropriate services in their churches on Sunday, May 30, irrespective of any arrangements made by local Posts.

Post commanders are requested to forward to the Assistant Adjutant-General as full reports relative to the observance of the day in their several localities or vicinity as is possible.

Special attention is called to the enclosed "Hymn for Decoration Day, 1880," dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic by the Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. J. F. Lovering.

By command of

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, May 14, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 5. }

I. Posts or comrades who desire copies of the "Proceedings" of this Department "for 1879," should forward their orders at once, as per General Orders No. 2, from these Headquarters. They will be printed *only* on the conditions named therein, excepting that the time for the reception of subscriptions is extended to June 1.

II. The inspection of the Posts in this Department will be conducted by the Department officers the same as last year; and in order that all books and papers of the adjutant and quartermaster, as well as the records and accounts of relief committees and trustees, may be presented at the inspections, sufficient notice will be given to Post commanders of the official visit.

III. A supply of badges has been received, and any that may be wanted for Memorial Day must be ordered on or before the 20th inst. In ordering them specify whether the *regular* badge is wanted, or those with wide loops for *officers*, as the latter are furnished with blue ribbon at the same price. Attention is called to the following extract from General Orders No. 4, series of 1877, from these Headquarters:—

... "Badges must be paid for when they are ordered. Therefore, all Posts that have ordered Badges should forward funds to pay for the same immediately; and all future orders must be accompanied by the money. Otherwise they will be filled by express C.O.D. The price of badges to Posts will be 75 cents each, with six cents additional if sent by mail."

By command of

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 No. 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, June 7, 1880. }

CIRCULAR }
 No. 1. }

a. It is with much pleasure and pride that I congratulate and thank the several Posts in the Department for the faithful and loving duty by them so well performed on "Decoration Day." As reports of the very general observance, and sympathy manifested by friends, are communicated to me, I feel that, as the years roll by, our organization the more commends itself to public aid and encouragement, and enjoins upon us renewed energy, that all who "wore the blue" should be with us in enthusiastic fellowship.

b. All Post commanders who have not complied with Paragraph IV., General Orders No. 4, from these Headquarters, relative to a report of the observance of "Memorial Day," should do so at once, as such reports are desired to perfect the records of this Department.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Aug. 3, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 6. }

I. General Orders Nos. 3 and 4, together with "corrected copy for filing" of No. 1, from National Headquarters, are herewith forwarded to this Department.

II. As a sufficient number of copies of Proceedings of this Department for 1879 were not subscribed for, they will not be printed. Posts that forwarded money with their subscriptions may have the same returned, or it will be placed to their credit, as they may designate.

III. An invitation has been extended to the Posts of Suffolk County to represent this Department in the parade, on the occasion of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Boston, on September 17 next; but Posts outside the county will be welcomed and will be assigned a position in line, *provided, however*, that notice of such intention (with probable number of men, and what music if any) is given to these Headquarters on or before September 10.

By command of

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, July 30, 1880. }

SPECIAL CIRCULAR.

An invitation having been extended to this Department to parade on the occasion of the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of Boston, on the 17th day of September next, the Department Commander, after careful consideration, has deemed it advisable not to order out the Department; but believing that our organization should be represented at that time, an invitation is hereby extended to the Posts of Suffolk County to represent the Department on that occasion.

The Commander feels assured that the high standing and interest of the Department will be fully maintained by intrusting to the comrades of Suffolk County this important duty.

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, Sept. 28, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 No. 7. }

I. In accordance with Paragraph II., General Orders No. 5, from these Headquarters, the following Department officers have been detailed to inspect the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

Senior Vice Department Commander Thomas H. Hill, 7, 42, 113, 118, 134, 139, 148, 149.

Junior Vice Department Commander Benj. S. Lovell, 1, 3, 8, 13, 31, 73, 78, 104, 121.

Council of Administration : Azel Ames, Jr., 4, 35, 40, 50, 66, 75, 90.
 John F. Bruce, 9, 10, 28, 53, 54, 59, 64,
 69, 86, 98, 109, 116.
 John Scates, 11, 15, 23, 26, 32, 143.
 Charles A. Stott, 12, 33, 39, 48, 100,
 115, 119.
 Benj. A. Bridges, 18, 22, 43, 44, 63, 96,
 117, 142.

Inspector George W. Creasey, 2, 5, 34, 45, 47, 58, 67, 82, 87, 89, 95,
 101, 108, 114, 122, 151.

Judge Advocate Giles H. Rich, 29, 30, 56, 57, 62, 68, 81, 92, 94,
 102, 144.

Chief Mustering Officer A. C. Monroe, 46, 52, 55, 72, 74, 76, 83, 88,
 91, 110, 111, 112, 124, 127, 146.

Assistant Adjutant-General Meech, 6, 16, 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 27, 37,
 38, 41, 49, 51, 61, 65, 70, 71, 77, 79, 84, 85, 93, 97, 103, 123, 126, 131, 135,
 136, 145.

It is expected that all Department officers, including aides-de-camp, will co-operate with and assist the above officers in their inspections when practicable.

As it is important that the inspections should be concluded on or before December 1, it may be necessary in some instances to call special meetings of Posts; therefore, commanders of Posts will govern themselves accordingly.

The traveling expenses of the officers will be borne by the Department, but all *local* expenses will be paid by the Post visited. At each inspection the complete ceremony will be shown, including muster-in, and all books and papers of the Post, including records of the relief committee or trustees, must be presented for inspection. A statement of amount expended for relief for the year ending September 30 will be required.

Inspectors will insist upon a strict compliance with Section 1, Article VII., Chapter V., General Rules, Rules and Regulations, a blank *bond* having been furnished each Post in the Department, to secure uniformity.

Officers of Posts will bear in mind that the reports for quarter ending September 30 determine the representation in next Department Encampment. In this connection attention is also called to the necessity of forwarding reports promptly on the *first* of the quarter, as less time is given for consolidation by National Headquarters than formerly.

By command of

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
 BOSTON, NOV. 26, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
 NO. 8. }

I. General Orders Nos. 9 and 10 from National Headquarters are herewith promulgated. Special attention is called to Paragraphs I. and III., G.O. No. 10, inclosed. Posts or comrades desiring the Manual should order of these Headquarters at once, that a supply may be obtained. The price will be fifteen cents each. Badges that may be wanted within the next two (2) months should be ordered immediately.

II. Blanks of Form F, on which the annual surgeon's report is to be made, are herewith inclosed. This report must accompany the adjutant's and quartermaster's reports for fourth quarter, 1880. Only those wounded comrades are to be reported who were *omitted* last year, and those who have been *admitted* this year. A copy of this report must be retained in the Medical Descriptive Book of the Post. In case a Post has no wounded comrades to report, the Blank F will be returned to these Headquarters so endorsed.

III. Posts must bear in mind that the *first* meeting in December is the time appointed for the election of Post officers and representatives to the Department Encampment. A blank is herewith inclosed on which Posts are to make the return of election of Post commander and delegates and alternates. Be sure to give name and post-office address of *new* Post commander on this blank. The number of delegates to which each Post is entitled shall be determined by the number of comrades reported in good standing on reports for quarter ending September 30. The basis of representation remains as heretofore.

IV. The order announcing mustering officers will be issued early in December, and the Chief will be governed by the wishes of Posts in their selection when practicable. Recommendations must be forwarded on or before December 20. And in no case will an assignment be made unless the Post or its representative so designates.

By command of

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
NO. 53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, Dec. 27, 1880. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 9. }

I. The following-named comrades are hereby detailed as Mustering Officers, and will install the officers of the Posts whose numbers appear against their names:—

William C. Davis, New Bedford	1
John G. B. Adams, Lynn	4, 12
Geo. L. Sanborn, Holliston	6
Henry N. Fisher, Waltham	29
Benjamin Brown, Scituate Centre	31
William H. Hart, Chelsea	35
Fitz J. Babson, Gloucester	45
Geo. S. Evans, Cambridgeport	53, 56, 139
Lucius Field, Clinton	64
Charles F. Allen, S. Abington	73
W. A. Sloane, Spencer	77
J. Frank Dalton, Salem	82
Malcom Sillars, Danvers	90
John F. Ridley, Methuen	100
C. O. Noyes, Georgetown	108
Edwin Earp, Lynn	118
Charles H. Orchard, Taunton	3
George H. Patch, S. Framingham	5
George R. Kelso, Charlestown	11
Richard F. Tobin, Cambridgeport	30, 57
John W. Hart, Salem	34

E. P. Gibbs, Hudson	43
John W. Barnard, Danvers	50
A. A. Burrell, Milford	63
A. M. Parker, Worcester	70
Charles H. Leonard, Plymouth	76
Peter Snyder, N. Adams	79
William R. Driver, Beverly	89
John R. Merritt, Swampscott	95
S. B. Spooner, Springfield	103
H. A. Oakman, S. Scituate	111
Dudley E. Gale, Amesbury	122

Senior Vice Department Commander Thomas H. Hill will install the officers of Posts 75 and 149.

Chief Mustering Officer A. C. Monroe will install the officers of Posts 52 and 72.

II. Post commanders will at once put themselves in communication with their mustering officers, giving time and place of installation. In case of the absence of the comrade designated above for any Post, and where no comrade has been assigned, any *past* Post commander in good standing (except the retiring Commander) may act. In no case will the officers of any Post be installed until *all reports and dues have been forwarded*. See page 7 of the Service Book.

By command of

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

ALFRED C. MONROE,
Chief Mustering Officer.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF MASS., G.A.R., }
53 TREMONT STREET, ROOM 3, }
BOSTON, Jan. 14, 1881. }

GENERAL ORDERS }
No. 10. }

I. The Annual Encampment of this Department will be convened in Faneuil Hall, Boston, on Wednesday, Jan. 26, 1881, at 7 o'clock P.M., for the election of Department officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before it. Posts are entitled to the following ratio of representation: One delegate for every fifty members reported in good standing September 30, with one additional for a final fraction of more than half that number; but each Post, whatever it numbers; shall be entitled to at least one delegate. Post commanders are members of the Encampment by virtue of their office.

II. An invitation having been extended to the officers of Post 15 to exemplify the work of the Order in the presence of the Encampment, and the same having been accepted, it is desired that *every Post* in the Department should be represented at this meeting, not only for the purpose of witnessing the *muster-in service*, but to take part in the general business of the Convention, which promises to be of more than usual interest. The Commander of Post 15 will detail an officer of the day, an officer of the guard, and at least fifteen (15) comrades for guard and other duty during the Encampment. The officer of the day will report to the Assistant Adjutant-General at Faneuil Hall at 6.30 P.M. on the 26th, for instructions.

III. Section 1, Article II., Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, provides that Post Commanders shall forward at the close of each quarter, with the quarterly returns, the names of any members of his Post *in good standing*, who have held the position of Commander-in-Chief, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief of the National Encampment, or of Department Commander, and a list of the names of rejected applicants for the quarter.

IV. In accordance with the requirements of the Manual, and Section 1, Article VII, Chapter V., Rules and Regulations, a blank bond for Post Quartermaster is herewith forwarded to each Post in this Department.

V. Commanders of Posts that have not been supplied with the new ritual will be furnished with the same at any time upon return of the old ritual to these Headquarters. This should be done at or before the Department meeting.

By command of

JOHN A. HAWES,
Department Commander.

JAMES F. MEECH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

POST NO. 1

EARLY MEMORIAL SERVICES

IN HONOR OF THE DEAD.

EXTRACT from the records of Post No. 1, June 18, 1867 : —

Voted, That we turn out on the Fourth of July and visit the Soldiers' Monument on the Common. A committee consisting of Comrades Gilman, Ingraham and Coleman was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

June 25, 1867, the Committee of Arrangements reported.

Extract from *New Bedford Evening Standard* of July 5, 1867 : —

“ At half past nine the members of the New Bedford Post of the Grand Army of the Republic formed in procession in front of their Headquarters on Purchase Street, near William, and marched to the Common to pay respect to the deceased soldiers and sailors of the war, at the monument erected in their honor. Music was furnished by the New Bedford Brass Band, which was headed by the imposing figure of Drum-Major Vaughn. The comrades of the Grand Army wore black crape at their elbows and were commanded by Lieut.-Col. *James Barton, Vice Commander of the Post. The color-bearer and the color-guard were men who had lost an arm in the service: Edward T. Chapman, Josiah Wood and John Kincaid; and three disabled comrades, Thomas E. Ward, Nathaniel A. Booth and Samuel Johnson, rode in a carriage. The procession moved through Purchase, Maxfield, Pleasant, Willis and State streets to the Common; and the officers being seated on a platform near the monument, and the procession being drawn up between the platform and the monument, which was adorned with flowers and bouquets, prayer was offered by Rev. T. C. Moulton, and Rev. A. H. Quint, D.D., delivered the

* Senior Vice-Commander.

following beautiful and pertinent address, which was received with evident feeling and frequent applause:—

“ ‘Comrades, not many words are needed now. Not because the road hither was dusty—we have been on dusty roads before. Not because the sun is hot upon our heads—we have been in the hot sun before. But because our errand today is its own explanation. With no pomp or glitter, in no spirit of display, we come to the stone which piously commemorates our dead comrades. We hear some of that favorite music which pioneered the march of Sherman to the sea. [The N. B. Brass Band was the band of the 33d Mass. Regt.]

“ ‘We are led by the flag which every patriot honors and before whose rustle we bow in reverence. So simply, and with the feeling with which one goes to the grave of friends, we come here this morning.

“ ‘We cannot go to their graves. They sleep under the salt sea. They sleep at Alexandria and Manassas; at Antietam and Gettysburg; at Chancellorsville and by the Rappahannock; at Cold Harbor and Petersburg; at Newberne, at Whitehall and at Morris Island; at Olustee, at Dallas, at Drewry’s Bluff and Port Hudson; and in the nameless graves by the roadside, where the weary men laid down and died. This stone groups them all together, and allows us to honor, all in one, the heroic dead.

“ ‘We meet to remember. When the guns waked us this morning they wove their voices into our dreams. Half awake we heard the hoarse orders and were falling in. But in a brief moment, wakeful, we missed the sharp ring of the shotted gun, the spiteful leap of the iron from the cannon’s throat, the rattle of the skirmishers. It was peace, not war. Six years ago today you were mustering in front of Washington. Five years ago today you were lying at Malvern Hill. Four years ago this morning you were burying the dead of mighty Gettysburg, while a thousand miles away Grant was receiving the surrender of Vicksburg. Three years ago today, in the West, the rebels were falling back out of Kenesaw before Sherman’s victorious legions, while in the East Grant was holding the enemy in a death-grapple at Petersburg. Two years ago to-day and the noise of war was hushed, and they determined to build this monument, of which one year ago today they laid the corner-stone; and perhaps one year on-

ward from today we shall find the work finished. And under the green sward lie our comrades. They sleep.

“ ‘Today the comparative silence is not hard to us. Our thoughts are busy with the dead scenes and the dead soldiers. The old Fourth of July! It has been superseded. Not that we respect less, but all the more, the gallant deeds of our grandsires; for we have learned, on many a march and in many a battle, what they did and at what cost they made this nation free. But now, what is England to us? What is its former tyranny, now that that proud realm fawns on the dread power of the great Republic? The nation’s life has had a new salvation. You helped to save it. You of those who have made history—to you, what would be the old Fourth of July orations? It might be well that municipal authority should, for the sake of loyal reverence to the nation’s birthday, celebrate it. But what would be the fireworks of an evening to those who have seen a thousand “camp-fires in the evening dews and damps,” the blaze of guns, and the smoke which canopied the field? What is the noise of balls and of little powder toys to men who have been in the roar of half a thousand cannon and two hundred thousand muskets, or in the ships which fought the mighty works? What is the cheering of the people to men who have heard the yell of charging lines? We care for no processions when we remember the long marches of long columns bound on a magnificent and deadly errand.

“ ‘For I see before me the men of history. I see you who were in Burnside’s work on the islands; who were in the bay when the Cumberland went down; who were in the Peninsula marches and battles; who were where McClellan hurled back Lee from Maryland soil; who were where the Swamp Angel threw death into haughty Charleston; who were in front of the bloody heights of St. Mary’s; who were in the burning woods of Chancellorsville; who held Cemetery Hill against the enemy’s choicest legions; who were on the long road from the Wilderness to Petersburg; who were in Sherman’s hard struggle from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and in his magnificent march to the ocean; who were in the trenches of Port Hudson, and up the Red River; who sailed with Farragut and conquered.

“ ‘I see, too, and you see, the shades of the departed. They were there when you were. We see them in the lines. We see them on the march. We remember.

“ ‘We remember now the scenes of the past. They are gone. But it is well for us to recall them now and then. They were times that tried men’s souls. By this stone they are summoned up. The citizen’s dress does not erase the recollections; and now that we have gone back like good citizens to peaceful life, we will live as men who have been baptized in a sacred cause.

“ ‘We remember the work then done at home. We honor the patriot men who, unable to shoulder the musket, gave money, time, labor and their own sons to the cause of their country. We honor the men who nerved the popular heart and stood true to the soldiers and the cause. We honor the noble women who worked and prayed and wept—whose tears blessed the helps they sent and whose brave hearts enshrined their country’s cause; who gave husbands, brothers, sons, and gave them heroically. Alas! now and here we know that they waited long for the men who should never come home again.

“ ‘We remember, too, that men failed in that crisis. Dastardly men, at home, who held back and threw every obstacle they dared in the way of the soldiers, and multiplied the graves and the tears. Deeply they sinned—beyond forgiveness until they repent deeply; and when repentant, and therefore forgiven, yet, having failed in the great agony of the nation, beyond trust forever.

“ ‘We remember the great principles for which the dead fought. It was a great work which they did and in which we were. Those principles of eternal justice, of equality, of honor, and of national life, for which was the strife, and which reared this stone, they are ours today and forever will we be true.

“ ‘We remember the honor of our flag. Let it wave triumphant. Color-bearer, you have one arm left yet—raise your colors! Let no hand dare pluck at its folds. Let none touch it profanely or lightly! Next to the cross it is our symbol; and though we need not do it, yet here by the memorial of the dead, we who have banded again together for this do renew our allegiance to these Stars and Stripes.

“ ‘Well is it, Comrades, on this national birthday, to come here. Well for the citizens to come; but for us it is a pious duty. Place the flowers upon the stone. Spirits of the departed! You who helped purchase with your blood our country’s life—never

shall you be forgotten while a comrade lives to recall the story of your deeds. Never, while America is a nation, will your work pass from memory.

“ ‘Therefore, let us year by year come here to receive a new benediction of patriotism. Let us every year bring hither the flag and form the line by this symbolic stone. Fewer and fewer shall we be as the fleeting years pass by, but let the shortening line be formed; and at last when but one man remains, let him bring his weary feet here and sit down by this stone in the morning sunlight and uncover his grey hairs, and let the children and the men of that day, as they see his feeble frame, know that the last of this town’s patriot soldiery in the great war never ceased to remember his dead comrades and never faltered in his love for the old flag which he had followed when his limbs were strong and his step was firm.’

“After the address Rev. I. H. Coe offered prayer, and the procession was again put in motion, and with heads uncovered marched round the monument to slow music, and then returned to Headquarters by nearly the same route that they went to the Common. This was an impressive portion of the day’s proceedings, and seven thousand people went to the Common to witness it. Gen. Timothy Ingraham acted as Officer of the Day and introduced those who took part in the exercises.”

ROSTER OF POSTS.

FROM THE ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT TO JAN. 1, 1895.

This compilation presents as full a list of all Posts chartered in the Department as can be obtained from the incomplete records at headquarters, supplemented with personal investigation and correspondence. It will be observed that in some instances the numerical and chronological orders of Posts do not seem to agree; but this appears to be due to varying methods of assigning numbers to Posts.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Chartered.</i>	<i>Surrendered Charter.</i>
1	New Bedford,	Oct. 4, 1866.	
2	Nantucket,	Nov. 28, 1866,	Jan. 26, 1874.*
2	So. Boston,	Feb. 26, 1880.	
3	Taunton,	Jan. 2, 1867.	
4	Melrose,	Feb. 19, 1867.	
5	Lynn,	Feb. 27, 1867.	
6	Holliston,	March 8, 1867.	
7	Boston,	March 11, 1867.	
8	Middleboro,	March 13, 1867.	
9	Hudson,	May 27, 1867.	
10	Worcester,	April 13, 1867.	
11	Charlestown,	April 23, 1867.	
12	Wakefield,	Aug. 16, 1867.	
13	Brockton,	July 1, 1867.	
14	Woodville,	July 3, 1867,	Jan. 1, 1880.
14	Hopkinton,	July 21, 1882.	
15	Boston,	Aug. 6, 1867.	
16	Springfield,	Aug. 9, 1867.	
17	Orange,	Aug. 9, 1867.	
18	Ashland,	Aug. 12, 1867.	
19	Fitchburg,	Aug. 16, 1867.	
20	Paxton,	Aug. or Sept., 1867,	——— 1871.
20	Blackstone,	July 26, 1871,	Dec. 28, 1874.
20	Colrain,	March 4, 1875.	
21	Westboro,	Aug. or Sept., 1867,	——— 1871.
21	Needham,	——— 1871,	——— 1875.
21	Boston,	Feb. 22, 1881.	
22	Milford,	Sept. 19, 1867.	
23	East Boston,	Sept. 17, 1867,	
24	Grafton,	Sept. 25, 1867.	
25	Uxbridge,	Sept. 30, 1867.	
26	Roxbury,	Oct. 1, 1867.	
27	Oxford,	Oct. 15, 1867.	——— 1869.
27	Oxford,	Nov. 14, 1870.	
28	W. Boylston,	Oct. 12, 1867.	
29	Waltham,	Oct. 21, 1867.	
30	Cambridgeport,	Oct. 23, 1867.	
31	Ashburnham,	Nov. 4, 1867.	Nov. 25, 1874.*
31	Scituate,	July 15, 1875.	
32	So. Boston,	Nov. 6, 1867.	
33	Woburn,	Nov. 6, 1867.	

* Charter annulled.

No.	Location.	Chartered.	Surrendered Charter.
34	Salem,	Nov. 15, 1867.	
35	Chelsea,	Nov. 16, 1867.	
36	Amherst,	Feb. 1, 1879.†	Jan. 17, 1880.
36	Arlington,	May 26, 1881.	
37	Spencer,	Nov. 20, 1867.	
38	Brookfield,	Nov. 27, 1867.	
39	Lawrence,	Dec. 10, 1867.	
40	No. Weymouth,	Jan. 1, 1868,	Aug. 4, 1873.
40	Malden,	Oct. 1, 1873.	
41	Westfield,	Jan. 9, 1868.	
42	Lowell,	Jan. 15, 1868.	
43	Marlboro,	Jan. 15, 1868.	
44	Northampton,	Jan. 22, 1868,	March 5, 1875.
44	Fayville (Southboro),	May 17, 1878.	
45	Gloucester,	Jan. 21, 1868.	
46	Fall River,	Jan. 22, 1868.	
47	Haverhill,	Jan. 28, 1868.	
48	Ayer,	Jan. 18, 1868.	
49	Newburyport,	Feb. 17, 1868.	
50	Barre,	Feb. 17, 1868,	——— 1871.
50	Townsend,	June 27, 1871,	Jan. 1, 1878.
50	Peabody,	April 28, 1879.	
51	No. Brookfield,	Feb. 28, 1868.	
52	So. Easton,	Feb. 29, 1868.	
53	Leominster,	June 13, 1868.	
54	Berlin,	June 2, 1868.	
55	Southbridge,	June —, 1868,	——— 1871.
55	Taunton,	Feb. 5, 1872,	July 12, 1884.*
55	Provincetown,	Sept. 23, 1884.	
56	Cambridge,	June 26, 1868.	
57	E. Cambridge,	June 29, 1868.	
58	Weymouth,	July 2, 1868.	
59	Sterling,	July 3, 1868.	
60	Whitinsville,	July 14, 1868,	July 12, 1877.
60	Franklin,	May 16, 1881.	
61	Webster,	July 21, 1868.	
62	Newton,	July 21, 1868.	
63	Natick,	July 23, 1868.	
64	Clinton,	Aug. 17, 1868.	
65	Warren,	Aug. 21, 1868.	
66	Medford,	Aug. 21, 1868.	
67	Manchester,	Sept. 29, 1868.	
68	Dorchester,	Oct. 8, 1868.	
69	Westminster,	Nov. 9, 1868.	
70	Franklin,	Nov. 23, 1868,	July 8, 1875.
70	Millbury,	Aug. 3, 1876.	
71	Holyoke,	Nov. 25, 1868.	
72	Stoughton,	Nov. 13, 1868.	
73	Abington,	Nov. 23, 1868.	
74	Rockland,	Jan. 11, 1869.	
75	Stoneham,	Jan. 15, 1869.	
76	Plymouth,	Jan. 19, 1869.	
77	Holden,	Jan. 19, 1869.	
78	S. Abington, Whitman,	Jan. 30, 1869.	

* Charter annulled.

† This charter issued to replace original, which was destroyed by fire Jan. 3, 1879, and which evidently was dated between Nov. 15 and 20, 1867.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Chartered.</i>	<i>Surrendered Charter.</i>
79	N. Adams,	March 20, 1869.	
80	South Hadley,	March 20, 1869,	Aug. 11, 1880.
80	Westboro,	June 18, 1881.	
81	Brimfield,	March —, 1869,	——— 1871.*
81	Watertown,	Dec. 20, 1871.	
82	Marblehead,	March 29, 1869.	
83	Hanover,	April 29, 1869.	
84	Malden,	May —, 1869,	——— 1871.*
84	South Deerfield,	April 17, 1872.	
85	Ware,	May 12, 1869.	
86	Assabet (Maynard),	May 26, 1869,	July 13, 1882.
86	Northampton,	Aug. 4, 1882.	
87	S. Braintree,	June 2, 1869.	
88	Quincy,	June 10, 1869.	
89	Beverly,	June 5, 1869.	
90	Danvers,	June 8, 1869.	
91	Foxboro,	June 12, 1869.	
92	Easthampton,	June 15, 1869,	Oct. 28, 1873.
92	Brighton,	Nov. 12, 1873.	
93	Shelburne Falls,	June 15, 1869.	
94	Canton,	June 24, 1869.	
95	Saugus,	June 4, 1869.	
96	Northboro,	June 28, 1869.	
97	Auburn,	July —, 1869.	
97	Belchertown,	Nov. 23, 1872.	
98	Pittsfield,	July 8, 1869,	Jan. 6, 1877.
98	Princeton,	Aug. 3, 1877,	——— 1882.
98	Cohasset,	Jan. 12, 1883.	
99	Princeton,	July 20, 1869,	Jan. 31, 1874.
99	West Warren,	March 10, 1876,	Feb. 9, 1880.
99	Andover,	April 18, 1881.	
100	Ipswich,	May —, 1869, 1873.	
100	West Brookfield,	March 24, 1873,	Dec. 22, 1876.
100	Methuen,	Feb. 1, 1877.	
101	Groveland,	July 16, 1869.	
102	Billerica,	July 20, 1869,	Dec. 31, 1877.
102	Milton,	April 3, 1879.	
103	Chicopee,	July 20, 1869,	Jan. 4, 1878.
103	Chicopee,	Oct. 27, 1879.	
104	Hingham,	July 26, 1869.	
105	W. Medway,	Aug. 3, 1869,	Jan. —, 1878.
105	Upton,	July 15, 1881.	
106	Rockport,	Aug. 6, 1869,	June 19, 1873.
106	Holbrook,	June 20, 1873,	July 28, 1875.
106	Rockport,	Dec. 30, 1881.	
107	Hubbardston,	Aug. 9, 1869,	March 1, 1877.
107	Palmer,	July 18, 1881.	
108	Georgetown,	Aug. 18, 1869.	
109	E. Templeton,	Oct. 11, 1869.	
110	Randolph,	Oct. 29, 1869.	
111	Pembroke,	Oct. 29, 1869.	
112	Norwell,	Nov. 1, 1869.	
113	Boston,	Dec. 18, 1869.	
114	Merrimac,	Dec. 20, 1869.	
115	Lee,	Dec. 29, 1869,	Jan. 7, 1874.*
115	Groton,	July 30, 1874,	

*Charter annulled.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Chartered.</i>	<i>Surrendered Charter.</i>
116	Gardner,	Dec. 30, 1869.	
117	Medfield,	Jan. 3, 1870.	
118	Swampscott,	Jan. 24, 1870.	
119	S. Hadley Falls,	Jan. —, 1870, 1873.	
119	Lexington,	March 24, 1873.	
120	Greenfield,	Feb. 12, 1870,	June 1, 1878.
120	Lowell,	Oct. 26, 1881.	
121	Hyde Park,	March 22, 1870.	
122	Amesbury,	March 23, 1870.	
123	Athol,	June 1, 1870.	
124	E. Bridgewater,	June 7, 1870.	
125	S. Boston,	June 11, 1870,	Feb. 5, 1880.
125	Pittsfield,	March 10, 1882.	
126	Adams,	June 12, 1870.	
127	Hanson,	June 11, 1870.	
128	Provincetown,	June 16, 1870,	Jan. 21, 1874.*
128	Ipswich,	Jan. 17, 1882.	
129	Bryantville (Hanson),	June 1870,	— 1871.*
129	Somerset,	Oct. 6, 1871,	Dec. 30, 1878.
129	Millville (Blackstone),	April 25, 1883.	
130	Williamstown,	June 20, 1870,	Sept. 10, 1877.
130	Medway,	March 18, 1882.	
131	Leicester,	June 21, 1870.	
132	Peabody,	June 27, 1870,	April 28, 1879.
132	Sandwich,	Feb. 24, 1882.	
133	N. Attleboro,	June 28, 1870,	June 16, 1877.
133	Plainville,	May 23, 1882.	
134	Boston,	June 29, 1870.	
135	West Acton,	June 30, 1870,	June 24, 1873.
135	Shrewsbury,	Dec. 30, 1873.	
136	Rutland,	June 1, 1870.	
137	Housatonic, (Great Barrington)	— 1870,	— 1871.*
137	E. Douglas,	Sept. 21, 1882.	
138	Wareham,	— 1870.	— 1871.
138	Boston,	Nov. 3, 1871,	July — 1874.
138	West Acton,	May 2, 1882.	
139	Somerville,	Aug. 18, 1870.	
140	Sturbridge,	Sept. 13, 1870,	June 19, 1874.
140	Athol,	Feb. 22, 1882.	
141	Fall River,	Sept. 14, 1870,	March 18, 1874.*
141	Harwich,	March 15, 1882.	
142	S. Framingham,	Nov. 29, 1870.†	
143	Brookline,	Jan. 24, 1871.	
144	Dedham,	May 22, 1871.	
145	Attleboro,	June 6, 1871.	
146	New Bedford,	Dec. 4, 1871,	Jan. — 1881.
146	New Bedford,	April 27, 1882.	
147	Norwood,	May 16, 1872,	Dec. 31, 1874.
147	Amherst,	Oct. 31, 1882.	
148	Winchester,	May 22, 1872.	
149	Charlestown,	Dec. 11, 1872.	
150	Erving,	July 18, 1873,	June 11, 1875.
150	Montague,	Jan. 12, 1883.	
151	W. Newbury,	Jan. 10, 1874.	
152	Essex,	Jan. 22, 1883.	
153	Winchendon,	March 6, 1883.	

* Charter annulled. Bryantville Post probably never organized.

† Removed to Saxonville.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Chartered.</i>	<i>Surrendered Charter.</i>
154	Kingston,	May 24, 1883.	
155	Monson,	May 26, 1883.	
156	Everett,	June 14, 1883.	
157	Walpole,	July 21, 1883.	
158	Housatonic, (Great Barrington)	Aug. 23, 1883.	
159	E. Boston,	Sept. 7, 1883.	
160	W. Brookfield,	Sept. 18, 1883.	
161	Woburn,	Jan. 23, 1884.	
162	Turner's Falls,	Jan. 25, 1884.	
163	S. Framingham,	March 25, 1884.	
164	Conway,	April 29, 1884.	
165	Duxbury,	May 19, 1884.	
166	Easthampton,	June 17, 1884.	
167	Whitinsville,	June 18, 1884.	
168	Southbridge,	June 27, 1884.	
169	Norwood,	July 21, 1884.	
170	Mansfield,	July 31, 1884.	
171	Northfield,	Aug. 15, 1884.	
172	Bolton,	Aug. 18, 1884.	
173	Sturbridge,	Aug. 26, 1884.	
174	Greenfield,	Aug. 29, 1884.	
175	Lancaster,	Sept. 5, 1884.	
176	Huntington,	Oct. 9, 1884.	
177	Lee,	Nov. 6, 1884.	
178	Otis,	Nov. 28, 1884.	
179	Barre,	Dec. 11, 1884.	
180	Concord,	Dec. 20, 1884.	
181	Needham,	June 5, 1885.	
182	Somerset,	Oct. 16, 1885.	
183	S. Hadley,	June 14, 1886.	
184	Ashburnham,	April 1, 1886.	
185	Lowell,	April 14, 1886.	
186	Cambridgeport,	Jan. 13, 1887.	
187	Dalton,	April 7, 1887.	
188	Beverly Farms,	April 28, 1887.	
189	E. Marshfield,	Sept. 15, 1887.	
190	New Bedford,	May 28, 1888.	
191	Boston,	May 11, 1888.	
192	N. Attleboro,	July 26, 1888.	
193	Avon,	Sept. 25, 1888.	
194	Reading,	March 7, 1889.	
195	Pepperell,	March 20, 1889.	
196	Great Barrington,	March 26, 1889.	
197	Pittsfield,	April 18, 1889.	
198	Plainfield,	Nov. 19, 1889.	
199	Revere,	Jan. 10, 1890.	
200	Boston,	June 5, 1890.	
201	Cottage City,	June 19, 1890.	
202	W. Bridgewater,	July 31, 1890.	
203	Bourne,	Aug. 1, 1890.	
204	Centreville,	Oct. 15, 1890.	
205	Bridgewater,	Dec. 10, 1890.	
206	Falmouth,	March 19, 1891.	
207	Nantucket,	Aug. 28, 1891.	
208	Wareham,	Sept. 25, 1891.	
209	Williamstown,	Dec. 10, 1891.	
210	Sheffield,	Feb. 3, 1893.	

